

the chronicle

Museum stars

Hollywood comes to the Black Country for drama

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Daring model

Leigh aiming for success in modelling competition

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It's champion

Pooling their talents to be best in country

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400 staff rush for exit door at council

MORE than 400 workers at Dudley Council have applied to take voluntary redundancy over the next year – double the number that will actually leave.

Council bosses have launched the second year of a redundancy programme which will see around 200 positions go by April 2013.

But the council revealed a total of 405 people have come forward and some applications may have to be refused. The redundancies are part of overall cost cutting plans totalling £30million over three years. Union chiefs in Dudley said uncertainty over pension reforms and low morale in the public sector was leading to employees wanting to leave.

Following an announcement last January, the local authority has already shed more than 400 jobs as part of a bid to save £22m. The move is part of wider plans to axe 800 jobs over the next three years.

Of the 405 requests for redundancy, 54 have been approved. Staff started leaving in December and will continue over the coming months. Some 67 applications have also been made for flexible retirement and reduction of working hours. A year ago, more than 1,100 staff applied for redundancy and 535 were turned down.

Superbug cases drop

THE NUMBER of cases of superbug C-diff reported at Dudley's Russells Hall Hospital have fallen, health bosses have said. There were 99 cases were logged between April and the beginning of December last year.

Nursing director Denise McMahon told hospital governors there had been just two cases in December and one so far in January – which was lower than in previous months. She said the drop was due to the "rigorous action" taken by staff.

MAN IN £40,000 XBOX GAMES CON

by David Lumb

A SUPERMARKET worker who ran a £40,000 computer game racket modifying Xbox consoles to play fake games has been ordered to do 180 hours' unpaid work. Jemmane McDonald, aged 25, also sold counterfeit games and used the money he made to buy a Honda car, a television and designer clothes.

A computer glitch that led to fraud

A CONMAN cashed in on a computer glitch to rake in thousands of pounds from Experience Days sold at WHSmith, a court heard.

Alex Cooper, who was jailed for eight months, saw the flaw that let him swap cheap deals for far more expensive ones. The 26-year-old, of Netherton, then sold them cut-price on ebay and pocketed the extra cash.

Mrs Sati Ruck, prosecuting, said Cooper ran the racket for two years until being rumbled last June. He had been involved in 77 fraudulent transactions worth £19,200. No figure was given for what he made.

Cooper, of Stadium End Drive, got 25-year-old friend Clive Cheshire to provide extra names of relatives and new PayPal accounts in a bid to cover up the crime.

Cooper and Cheshire, of Fairway Avenue, Dudley, admitted conspiracy to commit fraud. Cheshire received a community order with 200 hours of unpaid work, a three-month night-time tagged curfew and was ordered to pay £600 costs.

Unemployed Cooper bought a cheap "experience" from WH Smith before illegally swapping them for a voucher for breaks worth more than £200. He admitted sampling six of the experiences and auctioning off the rest on the internet.

Mr Gurdeep Garcha, defending him at Wolverhampton Crown Court, said: "He simply took advantage of a computer system that was flawed but did not make a vast amount of money."

But Judge John Wait was persuaded not to jail McDonald, of Smethwick, at Wolverhampton Crown Court on Tuesday after being told about the lack of complexity in his operation and how McDonald had co-operated with investigators.

"You are 25 and, I suspect, part of a generation that does not realise the seriousness of what you did," said the judge.

"You now know, from the extensive investigation that has had to take place as a result of your conduct, that it is regarded as a very serious."

The judge added: "You are not somebody who carried out the operation on a sophisticated scale, you have no previous convictions, and you come from a good home."

McDonald, who lives with his elderly mother in Clent View, Smethwick, and works at Asda, in Cape Hill, advertised his services through www.monsterbackups.com from May 2008 to March 2010.

Posing

He was caught after a trading standards officer posing as a customer paid him £30 to modify an Xbox and £20 for five fake games.

A warrant was served and his modifying equipment and fake games were seized.

McDonald pleaded guilty to 28 counterfeiting offences.

Mr Mark Jackson, prosecuting, said McDonald's net profit had been calculated as being £38,845 and he had assets to the value of £11,000.

"In the scheme of these sort of cases, it was a relatively unsophisticated operation. The games were made to order," Mr Jackson told the judge.

Mr Jas Mann, in mitigation, highlighted his client's previous clean record and his willingness to cooperate with investigators.

McDonald was made subject to a curfew that prevents him leaving his home on Friday and Saturday nights.

A Proceeds of Crime hearing to decide how much needs to be paid back is due to take place at a later date.

Tom gets teeth into challenge



Tom tackles a 1kg burger watched by pub-goers at the Lutley Oak, Halesowen

TOM EDMONDS has taken on a super-sized fundraising task – chomping his way through a host of massive meals for a charity close to his heart.

Family and friends packed the Lutley Oak pub, Stourbridge Road, Halesowen, to see the 22-year-old start his Tom v Food challenge. He started it by eating a 1kg burger.

His also faces eating one of the hottest cur-

ries around and his own height in Subway sarnies. To complete the feat, he will have to stomach a 20 inch pizza on Friday.

Tom, of Princess Crescent, Halesowen, dreamed up the idea after his sister Lucy, 20, was diagnosed with Hodgkins-Lymphoma. "We are really close," he said.

For more details visit www.justgiving.com/Thomas-Edmonds

The price of school meals to increase

THOUSANDS of families will pay more for school meals under price rises just announced.

Council chiefs in Dudley have said they will increase the cost of primary school dinners by five pence a day.

Costs will go up from £1.80 to £1.85 a day in Dudley.

Bosses in Walsall said the cost would go up from £1.85 to £1.90. Wolverhampton and Sandwell said they were still reviewing prices.

In Staffordshire the cost of secondary dinners is £2.20 and primaries £2.10. Prices were frozen last year but are to be reviewed in April.

Dudley Council said its new prices are being introduced to cover the rising cost of food and fuel bills.

The authority said it has seen a rise in the number of students having school meals.

The cost of food at secondary schools in the borough is also set to rise by three per cent. And the price of an adult meal for staff at primary schools will go up by 5p from £2.85 to £2.90 when the increases are introduced on April 16.

Cabinet member for children's services, Councillor Liz Walker, said in a report: "Meal uptake in 2010/11 saw a 1.4 per cent increase, and year to date these numbers have been maintained numbers, despite the current climate."

Sighting in murder case

Detectives hunting for the killer of Betty Yates say they are investigating "a sighting of potential significance".

The 77-year-old was found at her home on January 4. She had been stabbed in the neck and beaten with her own walking stick.

Police spoke to motorists travelling through the town on Monday. Detective Chief Inspector Neil Jamieson said, one driver had seen something which is of great interest to us.

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£33,000 con gang pair spared prison

TWO Dudley crooks who were part of a fraud that led to more than £33,000 being swindled from the Government's crisis loan scheme have been spared immediate jail.

The con saw a gang of 11 take cash from money set aside for people hit by an emergency or disaster.

The Department for Work and Pensions makes interest-free loan payments of up to £440. But criminals forged fake tenancy documents,

created fake landlords and made a series of fraudulent applications.

Ryan Henry, 28, of Priory Road, and Neil Bell, 37, of Watsons Close, were given 12-month jail terms suspended for 18 months at Wolverhampton Crown Court. The court previously heard the pair's names had been found on applications.

Sandra Wheldon, 30, of Leasowes Road, Tipton, received a 12-month community order including a super-

vision requirement. She pretended to be a landlord to help acquire loans, the court was told.

Her partner, who the mother-of-one lived with, was also part of the gang and had already been sentenced, along with seven others. All admitted conspiracy to defraud.

In scores of fake applications, the gang provided addresses of innocent people in Sandwell and Dudley and pretending they were set to move in

to their properties. Investigators used voice recognition technology and covert surveillance to help end the racket which pocketed £33,518 with 84 applications between October 2010 and last July.

Matthew Warren, aged 25, of St John's Road, Dudley, had already been given a 16-month jail term for his role as the "head" of the racket.

Wheldon and Henry must pay £200 costs each.

Back bid for city status, says MP

AN MP is calling on residents of Dudley to get behind a petition backing its bid for city status.

Dudley North MP Ian Austin has added his name to an e-petition in support of Dudley's bid to become Britain's newest city – and issued a call for people from across the borough to add their support by signing.

More than 700 names have been collected on the petition, which has been organised by Dudley Chamber of Commerce.

A message on the petition states: "Together, we are committed to the creation of a vibrant and prosperous city where people are proud to live, learn and work and where businesses are keen to invest.

"We are ambitious about Dudley's future and proud of its past."

Mr Austin said it could raise Dudley's profile and help bring much-needed investment to the area.

He said: "I'm backing the campaign because the petition says that we have to be 'ambitious about Dudley's future and proud of its past' and I couldn't agree more."

To sign, visit www.dudley.gov.uk

Shock for traders as pavement is dug up

TRADERS in Brierley Hill High street were left "stunned" when workers turned up and announced and started digging up part of the pavement in front of their premises.

Electronics store shuts after firm loses £46m

BEST BUY has finally closed its store at Dudley's Merry Hill Centre after throwing in the towel in its battle to shake up the electronics market in the UK and attract new customers.

The branch of one was 11 shops created after mobile phone retailer Carphone Warehouse joined forces with US group Best Buy in May 2008 in a bid to take on electronics giants such as Dixons Retail.

But after losses of £46.7 million in the six months to September, the £1.1 billion joint venture was forced to admit that its attempt to blend competitive prices and American-style customer service had failed to woo UK shoppers.

Best Buy Europe said it was confident that it would be able to "redeploy" its 1,100 Best Buy employees elsewhere in its Carphone Warehouse or technical support business Geek Squad, and claimed the relationship between Carphone Warehouse and Best Buy remained "very strong".

A spokesman said: "We remain committed to working with our Best Buy employees to ensure they find suitable positions within other areas of our business."

Dudley Council is installing cables for traffic lights in until January 29.

But Rob Mantle, owner of Coffee Uno and the neighbouring BHF Florists, said traders had no idea the work was planned and are complaining they now face weeks of disruption.

The works will gradually move along the road as underground cables are replaced. Businesses said there was no space for delivery vans to park outside while work is carried out.

And they feared customers will be put off by the works going on outside.

Mr Mantle, aged 59, said: "We haven't got a back entrance so we have to take deliveries at the front."

"Our floristry business is 90 per cent deliveries so we rely on there being room to park on the front."

Stunned

"I don't blame the workers but it would have surely been good practice for the council to let us know in advance. I was stunned – it was a total shock."

Adams Carpets owner Mahmood Ahmed, 40, said customers were struggling to park to load their cars.

He said: "It's going to drive customers away – they are complaining and it is making life really difficult."

Councillor Patrick Harley, cabinet member for transportation, said work should be over by the end of January.

"A clear pathway for pedestrians should always be maintained during this work and if any footpath closure had been necessary notices would have been sent to all local premises," he said.

Hothouse comfort for snails



Senior zoo keeper Lesley Lewis with two of the giant African land snails

A COLLECTION of giant African land snails are being kept out of the cold at Dudley Zoo. Senior keeper Lesley Lewis has transferred four snails to a warmer climate in the boiler room beneath the zoo offices.

They are now keeping warm in a tank where they are eating lettuce and cucumber until the temperatures outside increase in the spring. Mrs Lewis owns four of the mega molluscs and the largest, named Corris, is

about the size of a human hand. "When the weather gets colder, the snails need more warmth in order to stay active. They are now situated on top of the boiler in the basement, where they are happily eating lettuce and cucumber in their tank," she said.

The species is believed to be native to the West Africa coasts of Sierra Leone, Liberia, Ivory Coast and Nigeria. The shells often grow to 18cm with a diameter of 9cm.

Get snapping for calendar

KEEN photographers are being urged to get snapping ready to enter a calendar competition in aid of five Midland hospices.

Webbs Garden Centres, in West Hagley, near Stourbridge, has launched its contest for the 2013 calendar. More than 1,500 images were entered from 330 photographers last year.

The hospices to benefit are: Acorns Children's, Stourbridge's Mary Stevens, Kemp, Kidderminster St Richard's, Worcester, and Primrose, Bromsgrove. Entry forms are available at Wychbold, West Hagley.

Volunteers call

A CHARITY providing guide dogs for the blind is looking for new volunteers. An information evening will be held at the Quality Hotel in Birmingham Road, Dudley on February 28. Guide dog owners will talk about their involvement at the event which starts at 6pm.

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Project to improve heathland

A MAJOR project to restore important heathland by removing trees and plants has started at a nature reserve.

Worcestershire Wildlife Trust will clear much of the woodland which has covered the Devil's Spittleful over the past 50 years.

It is the largest restoration project ever to have taken place at the reserve, between Kidderminster and Bewdley, and experts hope it will boost species of wildlife in the area.

Older trees, including pines and those used as habitats by birds and animals, will not be disturbed during the wildlife project.

Removal of the woodland will allow heather, grasses and other plants to grow at the site, according to experts. Alongside restoring heathland to the site the work will also provide better views over the reserve and a public right of way has also been cleared and re-installed.

The work is being supported by Natural England and once the site has been cleared the area will be fenced and grazed.

Gates will be installed at path crossings and volunteers will clear scrub to create a suitable nesting habitat for birds.

Dickens of a night due

THE GREAT-GREAT grandson of author Charles Dickens will perform some of the greatest scenes from his ancestor's best-loved works at an event in the Black Country.

Gerald Dickens will visit Netherton Arts Centre, in Northfield Road, for An Audience with Charles Dickens on February 27 at 7.30pm. The show marks the bicentennial of Dickens' birth and his descendant will be bringing the works to life.

Tickets, are £10 for adults and £6 for children on 01384 813943.

Benefits help

HELP with claiming benefits is available for residents in the Wyre Forest district who are over 50.

People will need to produce their national insurance number and most recent fuel bill. The service is free. A benefit check can be booked with Age UK at the Tulip Tree Centre, Kidderminster on 01562 827788.

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A smart search facility means readers can use keywords to find the story they want either from the latest edition or the papers in their archive. Users can save pages to their device, share with friends on social media sites such

as Facebook and Twitter, or send articles via email. The app is also free to download for iPhone users, with the same charging structure as the iPad.

It boasts the same functionality, allowing readers to use the phone handset to keep up to date with their favourite evening newspaper. Editor Adrian Faber said: "The new app is the perfect way to digest the Express & Star's excellent content wherever you are, while replicating the page-turning experience which so many readers enjoy."

"Whether readers want the major news from the region or the latest goings-on at their favourite local football club, the Express & Star app has it all."

It ay Hollywood but museum proves to be star attraction

SHE WAS once described as the most beautiful actress of all time. She starred alongside Steve McQueen in Bullitt, and Sean Connery in Murder On The Orient Express.

Now the Hollywood actress Jacqueline Bisset is standing in the bracing wind on a cobbled street in Dudley.

Library team commended over course curriculum

A TEAM which provides courses for adult learners in Worcestershire has received praise following an Ofsted inspection.

Worcestershire County Council's Libraries and Learning team won the commendation for the quality of courses on offered and value for money.

In a report, Ofsted rated the learning service as "good" and said tutors delivered lively and interesting lessons which helped users to achieve their objectives.

Courses provided for family learners and users with learning difficulties were also commended in the report.

Inspectors said learners developed good understanding and skills to help them find work.

In 2010/11 there were more than 3,600 adults who enrolled on courses run by the library and learning service, of which 84 per cent achieved their accreditation.

Courses are held at libraries, children's centres and village halls throughout the county making it convenient for anyone to attend.

"It's been quite good fun," she says, as she surveys the old-fashioned village at the Black Country Living Museum. She plays the widow of a wealthy landowner in Stephen Poliakoff's new period drama Dancing On The Edge, and is filming her screen husband's funeral in the museum's Darby Hand Chapel.

"It's a very nice church," she says. "I like the staircase inside."

She might be 67, but Bisset still cuts a striking figure.

The series, which will be screened on BBC2 next year, tells the story of how a group of black jazz musicians came to find their place among high society in 1930s Britain.

Extras

Also at the museum are actors Anthony Head, who recently played Sir Geoffrey Howe in The Iron Lady, and former Roseanne and Monsters Inc star John Goodman.

Around 150 cast, crew and extras have been at the museum during filming.

A short scene outside the chapel, where the jazz band solemnly walks out of the funeral, is shot four times before it meets Poliakoff's exacting standards.

Poliakoff says locations are crucial to the success of period drama.

"I first came to see it in October last year, and I was thrilled by this lovely atmosphere," he says.



The camera crew and cast filming a BBC drama at the Black Country Living Museum in Dudley



David, Helen, Dan and Dave get ready for their shot



Jacqueline Bisset



Anthony Head

News in brief

Charity wants to recruit volunteers

A STOURBRIDGE charity is looking for volunteers who can spare a few hours a week to accompany vulnerable people on trips out.

Dudley Mind wants to help people who have mental health problems to overcome isolation and to help boost their confidence.

The scheme is being funded by Lloyds/TSB Foundation for England and Wales. For further information, people can contact Tina on 01384 442 938.

College offering Spanish dining

STUDENTS will be serving up a Spanish feast as part of courses at Halesowen College.

The college's restaurant has launched the Spanish Fiesta evenings on Wednesdays and Thursdays. Starters will be assorted Tapas with Potato, Tomato, Mushroom, Chorizo and Tuna.

People can arrive for a pre-dinner aperitif at 6.45pm, with dinner served at 7pm, for £14.95.

For more details, call 0121 602 7851 or 0121 602 7777 ext 211.

Art to go on show at town centre

A CONTEMPORARY art fair is planned in Dudley, including a display of a replica steam train built in Stourbridge, fashion photography and a miniature workshop.

The event will be at Netherton Arts Centre on February 4 from 11am to 4pm. Everything from sculpture to photography will be shown. Email claire.starmer@dudley.gov.uk for more information.

Mayor is to forge links with firms

DUDLEY'S Mayor is to visit businesses in the borough over the coming months to learn about their work and boost links with the local authority.

The visits have been organised as part of Dudley Council's new Business First scheme which has been designed to offer support to firms in the area.

Speaker at pub

THE NEXT in a series of speakers' events will be taking place at a Dudley pub. Steven Woolfe will be at the Court House in New Street on February 8 at 7.30pm.

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A WORRIED reader who was born in Scotland but lives in England inquires whether, if Scotland becomes independent, she will still be able to call herself British.

I have advised her that while I will certainly be British, she will probably have to get used to being a Pict.

□□□□□□□□

MORE TV subtitles that don't match the spoken word:

● "Swindon beat Wigan" becomes "Swindon beat Sweden."

● "French-made implants" becomes "French maid in plants."

□□□□□□□□

A READER who clearly knows his baldricks from his wrist bells answers my query on why there are so many Morris dancing groups these days who black their faces. He says it reflects growing interest in the "dramatic and energetic" Border Morris style. I'm not sure I am convinced, having seen a report of one Morris side which has had to cancel three bookings because people took offence at their blacked-up faces. An outsider might get the impression that the blacking-up is more important than the dancing.

□□□□□□□□

I'VE not yet seen The Iron Lady but I caught a radio debate on whether Meryl Streep's Thatcher has the voice of the original Tory leader or the Spitting Image puppet version.

In fact, on radio without the distraction of the image, Streep's Thatcher sometimes sounded more like Miss Piggy.

Don't miss Peter Rhodes every Monday to Friday in your Express & Star

Crime-spree pair left war veteran in gutter

TWO TEENAGERS who went on a five-hour crime spree that included car jackings and robberies targeting elderly people have been locked up for a total of eight years.

by Andrew Turton

third teenager to steal a woman's handbag.

Admitted

An 81-year-old war veteran with health problems was dragged from the passenger seat of a car by one of the youths, Wolverhampton Crown Court heard. Both teenagers then jumped inside and drove off in the car with the pensioner's border collie dog still inside.

The victim was left injured in the gutter near Dudley Leisure Centre.

The dog was later reunited with its owner.

The pair also took another car after threatening a man in the car park of Dudley's Merry Hill shopping centre.

Both cars were crashed.

During the crime spree last September, the pair also stole keys from a couple in their 60s after attacking them in their car.

A man walking near Netherton Reservoir was punched and had £70 and credit cards stolen.

The two were joined by a

All three, who live in Dudley, cannot be named for legal reasons. Two, aged 14 and 16, pleaded guilty to four robbery offences. The third admitted one robbery.

The 14-year-old had been released four days earlier from an 18-month detention.

The 16-year-old, who had previous convictions, also pleaded guilty to driving without a valid licence and insurance and failing to stop at an accident.

The 14-year-old was given four years behind bars and three years on licence.

The 16-year-old was given four years in custody, a six-month driving ban and had his licence endorsed.

The third, aged 15, was given an 18-month youth rehabilitation order and a three-month curfew.

Two charities given a cash boost

TWO CHARITIES have been given a huge boost after the Mayor of Dudley was presented with a cheque totalling £9,000. Beacon Radio raised the cash from its Walk of the Black Country last summer. Councillor Michael Evans will hand the money to the Soldiers, Sailors, Airmen and Families Association and the Dudley Group of Hospitals Charity.

SVR work is right on track



Infrastructure manager Phil Sowden, assistant volunteer liaison officer Barry Moreton and volunteer foreman on the Severn Valley Railway Keith Brown

WORKERS are steaming ahead with a £250,000 improvement scheme on the Severn Valley Railway line between Kidderminster and Bridgnorth.

More than a third of a mile of track leading to and through the 480-yard Bewdley Tunnel is being renewed during the project. Services have been halted while the work, which got under way last week, is carried out. The railway's infrastructure manager Phil Sowden said work was on

track to be completed early next month. Two teams with a total of 13 workers, including railway staff and volunteers, are carrying out the repairs.

Mr Sowden said: "We have taken the old track out of the tunnel and now we've started putting the new track in there. It's going well so far and we are still on schedule." The railway is working with Walsh Construction Ltd of Worcester on the project.

Meeting to focus on plans for church

PARISHIONERS will meet with church leaders this month to draw up ambitious plans to renovate a Black Country church.

Christ Church, Quarry Bank, is working on proposals for improvements at the building which could cost more than £50,000.

The group Friends of Quarry Bank group is working with church members to devise the plans to secure funding.

They will be meeting the District Church Council to discuss ideas and views raised during a recent consultation.

Group chairman Brian Genner said: "We have been pleased with the response from the public so far."

"We are now advancing with the plans and we'll be meeting with the District Church Council to go through them."

"All the elements of the project that we have already discussed will be on the table."

Carols for food

MEMBERS of Kingswinford Christian Centre have raised more £277 for the Black Country Foodbank. The congregation sang carols around the streets of Kingswinford before Christmas. The charity distributes food to vulnerable residents and homeless.

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Punching attack on phone boy

A TEENAGER was punched and had his phone stolen as he walked through Stourbridge.

The 14-year-old was followed by two men in a red car who then jumped out, attacked him and stole his iPod, Blackberry phone, wallet and cash cards.

It happened as he walked along Lowndes Road between 7.45pm and 7.50pm on December 28.

Det Con Daniel Bailey, of Dudley CID, said: "The two offenders got out proceeded to repeatedly punch the victim to the head."

Both attackers were white with muscular builds and aged between 17 and 19.

One was approximately 5ft 10in. He had short black shaven hair and a local accent.

The driver was wearing a grey hoodie with the hood up.

De Bailey added: "We are hoping that someone must have witnessed this attack."

Anyone with information should call Brierley Hill police station or Dudley CID on 0345 113 5000 or Crimestoppers anonymously on 0800 555 111.

Talking murder

A TALK ON "Black Country murders" will be given by Ian Bott in the Wollaston Room at Stourbridge Town Hall on January 27 at 2.30pm. The event is part of Dudley Libraries' local history talks and anyone wishing to book can call 01384 812945.

Town is set to get charge up points for new electric cars

CHARGING points for electric cars will be installed in town centres across Dudley. It is part of a multi-million pound Government scheme to introduce more plug-in points.

by Andrew Turton

Plug sockets for electric cars will be placed in the middle of town centres in Dudley, Stourbridge, Brierley Hill and Halesowen by the end of the year under plans which have been set out by the council as part of a national transport scheme.

Other councils in the region are yet to finalise their plans but were considering installing electric plug-in points in their own towns.

Dudley Council's transport chief Councillor Patrick Harley said it was unclear how much the scheme would cost but the council was not having to foot the bill for the works to be carried out.

Funding for the project in Dudley will instead come from central government and from the West Midlands Local Transport Plan.

Four dual socket car-charging points will be installed in the coming months in the town centres.

Further points are planned in Stourbridge at the £50 million redeveloped

Crown Centre by the end of the year.

"As an authority we take sustainability issues very seriously and we are confident that by offering electric car points we will enable more people to drive electric vehicles while bringing in more trade from those who already use them," said Councillor Harley.

Struggling

"I think that this is an important move because we all know that households are struggling with the costs of petrol and you do have to look around for the cheapest places for fuel," added councillor Harley.

"This can be an incentive to look at alternatives like electric cars and although they may be more expensive initially there are savings to be made."

"The Stourbridge points will not be in until later in the year due to the development plans."



Customers at Retro-spective, New Street, Dudley, enjoy afternoon while raising money to help the Beacon Centre for the Blind at Sedgley

Teatime treats for Beacon

SHOPPERS sipped afternoon tea and enjoyed a slice of cake as a vintage clothes shop brought the past into the present to raise cash for charity.

Staff at Retro-spective, in New Street, wore aprons to stage the vintage tea party to raise funds for Sedgley's Beacon Centre for the Blind.

Chintzy tablecloths adorned tables, tea was poured from traditional china pots and customers were served refreshments from cake stands dating back to the 1950s.

The event was organised following suggestions from customers to bring in much-needed funds Wolverhampton Road East-based charity.

Many people stopped by during their lunch breaks and it is hoped more than £100 will be raised.

The store sells clothes from the 1940s to 1980s.

Manager Claire Harris said: "We wanted to do something to support this charity and a vintage tea party was suggested by customers. It was a lot of fun."

NEWS in brief

Heart charity in need of new stock

BRITISH Heart Foundation is appealing for stock ahead of the opening of its new store in Kidderminster.

The charity is on lookout for household goods including sofas, chairs, dining sets, beds and wardrobes as well as electrical items for the shop in Worcester Street.

It will open on February 7 and replaces the British Heart Foundation furniture and electrical store, in Market Street. To arrange a collection visit bhf.org.uk/collection

Plans for homes given go-ahead

PLANS for almost 150 new homes in a Black Country town centre on the site of a former gas works have been given the go-ahead.

The proposals for land which runs alongside Dudley Southern Bypass were welcomed by planning chiefs but concerns were raised over their design and size.

Housing giant Taylor Wimpey will build a mixture of apartments and houses on the site off Constitution Hill, near the Flood Street car park.

Theatre to stage a psycho-drama

THE NONENTITIES theatre group will stage Richard Harris's In Two Minds at the Rose Theatre, Chester Road North, Kidderminster. Performances will be at the theatre's main house at 7.30pm from January 23-28.

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Death threats a part of life for Peru missionary

A FULL-TIME job with daily exposure to the sights, sounds and smells of abject poverty – and all for no pay – is certainly not everyone's ideal career.

But former West Midlands teacher Margaret Sanderson has stuck at her role as a Christian missionary to some of Peru's shanty towns.

The 60-year-old has braved terrorism, drug-trafficking criminals and a personal death threat over the last 30 years.

And her reward is seeing the transformation she and her colleagues in the Latin Link charity help to achieve.

Families progress from bamboo shelters to plywood shacks with corrugated roofs and, maybe, ultimately a brick-built home.

"You look and wonder how people could possibly live in such conditions but they come out of their shacks in clean, beautifully pressed clothes, and they don't look bedraggled," said Margaret, who taught languages at Kinver's Edgely Secondary School from 1974 to 1979.

Malnourished

Margaret lives in a flat in the Peruvian capital Lima, near desert hillside shanty towns such as Villa Salvador and La Tablada, where she has helped to establish feeding programmes for malnourished children, found outlets to sell cottage industry goods and held health clinics with visiting doctors.

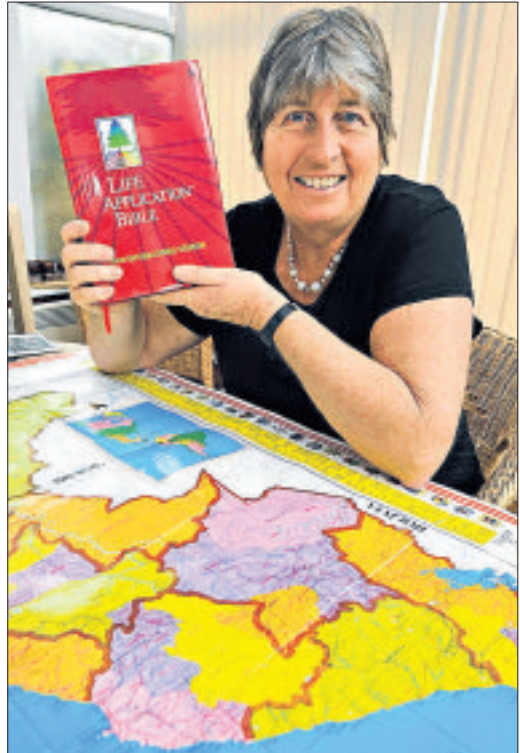
She has helped to improve the quality of life for thousands of families, and guided them spiritually, if they wish, to Christianity.

Margaret, who returns to Peru this month after a five-month return to England, was inspired to devote her life to missionary work by TV documentaries.

By the early 1990s many missionary projects in Peru folded against a growing tide of civil unrest.

Times are less turbulent now, although there are still parts of Lima where cocaine trafficking and murders are rife.

Visit www.latinlink.org.



Margaret Sanderson has worked as a missionary in Peru for the last 30 years



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Block up fly-tipping lane demand angry residents

Dare leads to model hope



Leigh Hutchinson, aged 24, who is vying for success

WHEN self-confessed tomboy Leigh Hutchinson entered a national modelling contest as a dare, they never expected it to lead anywhere, least of all to the finals.

But now she has beaten 4,000 other hopefuls and has reached the final which will be held in March.

The 24-year-old works with clothes every day in her job at

Debenhams, Merry Hill. Leigh, of Plant Court, Brierley Hill, saw an advert for Top Model UK in a magazine and was dared by three pals to enter. They submitted their details and Leigh earned a place in the "editorial" category at London's Hilton Metropole Hotel with the chance of winning coaching and going on photoshoots.

A NARROW lane in Pensnett is being plagued by fly-tippers who are using it to dump rubbish and causing misery for neighbours.

People living near Gibbons Lane are calling for action to stop "vile" waste being left along the main pathway and undergrowth.

Residents said both household and industrial rubbish was being dumped in the lane, which is often used by pedestrians as a shortcut.

They say the lane, off High Street, which leads to Kingswinford, is obscured by high vegetation making it hard to monitor and a prime target for the fly-tippers.

The land backs on to The Plantation housing estate. More waste has been dumped at the site over the past week and residents said something had to be done.

Rubbish includes building waste such as bricks, tiles and rubble alongside other waste which has started to rot.

Problem

Bedsie cabinets have been left in the past and there is also a problem with dog mess not being cleaned up and broken glass.

Residents are asking Dudley Council to place bollards at the lane's entrance to the lane to stop vehicles but is unadopted and not under the jurisdiction of any authority.

John Palmer, 68, who lives near the site, said: "The situation has got worse over the past few years. This used to be a nice shortcut but now it is in an appalling condition."

"The latest rubbish to be dumped there is absolutely vile. Part of the waste has started rotting and the smell is just horrible. We hope something can be done about it."

Dudley Councillor David Stanley said: "People who dump rubbish are not only breaking the law they are causing a blot on the landscape and leaving the taxpayer out of pocket."

Bereavement support

A free bereavement support session will be held at St James's Church Hall, Belfry Drive, Wollaston, Stourbridge, on January 27 from 2.30 to 4.30pm. To book places for the Omega sessions call 0845 259 3163 or email the team via carers@omega.uk.net

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Passenger numbers set to double with larger rail cars

DOUBLE the number of passengers will be able to travel on a Stourbridge rail line under £1.7 million plans to introduce larger rail cars.

New 120-seater rail cars, costing around £850,000 each, will be introduced on the Stourbridge town branch line later this year.

Bosses have said they were hopeful the rail cars would run on the line following the opening of the new £7m Stourbridge Bus Station nearby.

More than one million passengers have travelled on the service since the gas-powered rail cars replaced diesel trains on the line three

years ago. The service is operated by Parry People Movers Ltd, which is based in Cradley Heath.

Executive chairman John Parry MBE today said the present 60-seater rail cars on the Stourbridge Town branch line have reached capacity. "We have pushed our service to the limit of its frequency at the current time so the best way to expand is to double the size of our rail cars," he said.

Popular

"Local train services are so popular at the moment and are bursting at the seams.

"It has been a knock-on effect of high parking

costs in the centres of towns that more people are turning to local train services."

Mr Parry said he hoped up to three new rail cars would be needed on the line.

The branch line runs from Stourbridge Town to Stourbridge Junction stations to link up with main line services to London, Birmingham and Worcester.

It is hoped the new railcars, which will be twice the size of the present Class 139 version, would be able to operate six return services an hour on the line. The firm has already announced £5m plans to open a second passenger line on an existing freight railway between Brierley Hill and Stourbridge.

Present traders 'not considered' in plans

A BLUEPRINT for parking across Dudley has been branded "disappointing" by traders.

They say it is geared towards new developments rather than existing homes and businesses.

Dudley Council has released a draft of its parking standards document and is urging residents and shop owners to comment on the plans. The proposals will determine the level of parking to be created at new housing and business developments in the future.

But traders claim they were concerned the document did not sufficiently address how parking could be improved for existing sites within town centres in the borough.

Trader Alan Caswell, who runs the Arcade Toyshop in Dudley town centre, said: "I have looked at the document, and it

does seem to be geared towards future developments rather than how things can be made better for existing places in the town."

Mr Caswell, who has long campaigned for more parking in Dudley, said he still hoped places such as Stone Street Square would be considered as a place for spaces in the future. The consultation on the new document will run until February 20. New cycling bays and disabled parking requirements will also be considered.

More information can be found at www.dudley.gov.uk/parking or 3 St James' Road, Dudley, Comments can be sent in writing by post to the planning policy section, Dudley Council, 3 St James' Road, Dudley, DY1 1HZ, by calling 01384 816364 or emailing Rachel.gandolfi@dudley.gov.uk

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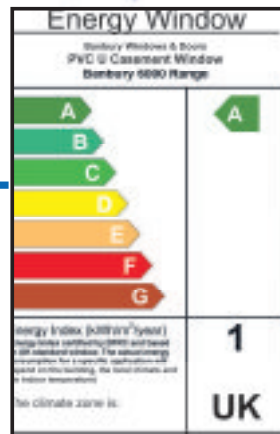


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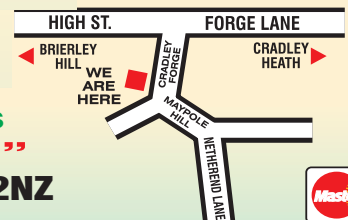


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Barely visible this car in Wrottesley Park, Wolverhampton was buried by the snow



One of the remedies used to combat the cold



Black Country Living Museum's 'icebreaker' Ross in 1963 during the 'Big Freeze.'



Big freeze brings out the best from Black Country

Fiona Carding of the Black Country Living Museum, Dudley looks back to the Big Freeze of 1963

NEW YEAR 2012 saw unseasonably hot weather sizzling across the UK and some parts of the country reached temperatures higher than Spain.

It was, however, a very different story in January 1963 when the country endured "The Big Freeze" and one of the coldest winters on record.

Temperatures plummeted and rivers froze as blizzard conditions swept across the country. Three feet deep snow drifts caused chaos blocking roads and railways across the Black Country. Snow drifts of up to 22ft high brought much of the South West and Wales to a standstill and in Kent a mile stretch of sea turned to ice.

Margaret Millington from Coseley said: "I can remember it being so cold that the canal in

MEMORY LANE by Fiona Carding

Upper Church Lane, Tipton froze over. My teenage friends skated on it like an ice rink and enjoyed sliding up and down.

"You took your life in your hands just walking to work as the paths were so dangerous. The gritters were simple open lorries with a couple of men shoveling salt and grit onto the road."

Slipping

"Houses still had open fires in those days and ash would also be spread over the ground to stop people slipping."

Walsall and Wolverhampton depended on supplies of coal from mines on Cannock Chase in Staffordshire and disruption caused an upsurge in sales of electric fires.

Warming food like rabbit stew, broths and soups kept the cold at

bay and people wrapped up in thick coat and boots. Les Millington said: "My brother-in-law worked for the council and would be up at 3am to do the gritting. I can remember him leaving the house dressed in long Johns with two pairs of trousers over the top to keep out the cold."

Milk was frozen in the bottles on the doorsteps and would often freeze in the house as there was no central heating.

People would snuggle up by the fire or go to bed early to keep warm and save coal. The more well off you were the more you could afford to stockpile coal which would last you through the bitter winter.

If you depended upon a weekly wage however, your coal supplies would probably run out within a week.

One thing however, remains the same today as it always was.

The vagaries of the weather brings out the best of British as people, both past and present, pull together in the face of the Great British winter.

Stourbridge FC groundsman Jack Corbett was hoping to beat the freeze during the record-breaking winter of February, 1963, by borrowing a spike harrow to get the pitch fit for the following day's game



It was not all misery and chaos due to the freezing temperatures and snowdrifts some took advantage of the cold spell in 1963 to enjoy themselves such as this family who were out on a sledge ride in February of that year

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Glimpse into the future that brings light rail link

THESE pictures are the first glimpse of how a multi-million pound light rail network between Brierley Hill and Stourbridge could look under new plans.

They were released as bosses revealed work could start within the next two years, creating dozens of jobs. Three metro-style stations would be built as part of the £5 million project to run passenger railcars on a four-mile section of an existing freight line. Passengers would be able to catch the railcars from The Waterfront, in Brierley Hill.

Railcars would then stop at a newly reopened Brierley Hill town railway station, off Station Road, which has been shut for more than 60 years.

A stop would be built near Corbett Hospital, Amblecote, before railcars travel on to Stourbridge Junction to connect up with main line services to London, Worcester and Birmingham.

Principle

Cradley Heath based-firm Parry People Movers has attracted £1m in principle from the Government's Regional Growth Fund to kick-start the project.

The firm already runs the branch line between Stourbridge Town and Junction stations.

The cash allows the firm to begin research and development into the plans to evaluate the existing infrastructure like the tracks and help develop new vehicles for the line.

Further funding will involve a leasing company putting up around £2.5m for the cost of the buying three new trains.

Executive chairman John Parry said it was great news for the company and the Black Country.

New jobs including drivers, cleaners and maintenance workers will be needed if the proposals become a reality.

"This is the biggest news for the company for a long time and we are delighted to be working on this project," he said.



How the new multi-million pound light rail network could look



The project could begin within the next two years creating new jobs

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LETTERS

Do Tories have Christian values?

PRIME MINISTER David now believes an acclamation of Christian values may be the answer to preventing a repeat of the social unrest experienced across Britain last summer.

I agree Christian values such as caring for each other and the pursuit of personal or spiritual fulfilment rather than material things are exactly what society needs, but we should not forget those ideals are encapsulated in many other religions too.

However, since Mr Cameron has specifically expressed Christian ideals, I just wonder what the credentials of the Conservative party might be in this

matter. I would not doubt most of his party regularly attend church, and I suspect therefore many of them will be aware of the drastic decline in church attendances in recent years, especially since the Conservative government relaxed Sunday trading laws in 1994.

Regarding the pursuit of material things, I have so far seen little evidence of this government "Overturning the tables" in the temples of the city.

Indeed, they are forever telling us to spend more. Nor was there much evidence of the "The Good Samaritan", or turning the other cheek when insults were being traded between British,

French and German politicians recently. I suspect that like the use of Britain's veto, this is another ploy specifically intended to rally the jingoistic and the party faithful.

If this Government really wants to know what has brought about a "broken society" I cannot help but recall Mrs Thatcher's words: "There is no such thing as society, only individuals"

It was her government that oversaw the globalisation of banking and the subsequent demutualisation of building societies.

MICHAEL CLIFF,
Wall Heath

thechronicle
These rich should give more than donations

I HAVE no qualms at all with those wealthy celebrities and millionaires of pensionable age that are giving their £200 and £300 winter fuel allowance to a fund to help those less fortunate than themselves.

It is their money, they can do what they like with it.

But why do they make a song and dance about it? If they want to give it to a charity of their choice, give it to a charity, full stop.

In fact this country has become a charity shop, and a profitable haven for the rest of the world, and this government is giving another £20m in foreign aid to countries that are by far, better off than we are.

Yet the pensioners of this country have their winter fuel allowance reduced by £50, and £100, and we all know how the cost of fuel has risen, yet we are the ones who have the reductions, especially at a time when we need it the most.

What I would like to see is those same celebrities, and millionaires highlighting and campaigning with pensioners for an above the poverty line pension of £178 a week.

They can do this by supporting us through the National Pensioners Convention, who vigorously campaign on all issues related to pensioners.

MRS P A JORDAN
Press Officer
Wolverhampton
Branch NPC

Grateful for support at a difficult time of life

I HAVE often seen readers' letters praising hospital wards following an in-patient visit, but none for domiciliary care.

I would like to take this opportunity to give praise and thanks to the people who enabled me to care for my husband at home during his terminal illness.

I include the Kingswinford District nurses, the Marie Curie cancer care sisters, Dudley Crossroads, the excellent palliative care team, the MacMillan nurses, and all at Kingswinford Medical Practice.

Without their practical help, kindness and support, I really don't know how I would have coped during the last few months of his life, at a time when I was already exhausted from caring for him for several years.

SANDRA HOLDEN,
Wall Heath

LETTERS to the Editor

POST

Dudley Chronicle, Chronicle
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Wolverhampton
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expressandstar.co.uk

Letters should be brief and MUST include name, address and telephone number of the writer. The Editor reserves the right to condense letters.

Enjoyment dwarfed by a little concern

I WRITE to you in connection with the 2pm performance December 18 of Snow white and the Seven Dwarves. I would like to congratulate everyone who played a part in this outstanding production. My self and my three children thoroughly enjoyed it.

However, I see the dwarves were children with masks and pre-recorded voices. I have to be honest at the time I was a little disappointed, however I fully understood in today's economic climate why such a decision may have been made.

Upon leaving the theatre I was approached by a TV crew who asked for a quick review. I was stunned to be asked if I would have been offended if the dwarves had been genuine. It appears there may be a little more than finances at the root of such a decision. I am disgusted at the thought of a theatre being put in a position where political correctness dictates. Can we not live any aspect of our lives without politics and prejudices. Was this significant change in cast simply made because little people are at the brunt of political discussion? Surely not.

MRS BILLINGHAM, Dudley

It's holly insulting replacing real thing

WHERE has all the pride and respect gone from this once great country of ours.

At this time of year many, many people have been visiting our cemeteries to honour and respect their deceased, loved ones.

But I wonder how many had a good look at the various types of wreath that they had laid. Well on a recent annual visit to Bushbury Crematorium I discovered to my total shock and amazement florists, garden centres, nurseries etc are now making and selling goods using plastic, yes, plastic holly. These well numbered the few that had real holly. So to the makers and sellers of these counterfeit goods I would say have a good look at yourselves and show some respect to our deceased.

TERRY MILLS
Woodsetton

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Miss Challoner of Wolverhampton

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thechronicle

Second meeting to look into extra gipsy sites

A SECOND consultation into plans for new gipsy and travellers' pitches in Wyre Forest is set to start next month, if councillors agree to consider four extra sites.

The district council says it needs to identify 43 more pitches for gipsies and travellers by 2022, as well as a site for travelling show people. Seven potential sites in the district were considered in a public consultation process in November. But four of the sites were thrown out after councillors ruled that they were not deemed to be suitable.

Now council officers have put forward four additional sites, which are all in Stourport, as possible locations for new pitches.

They will be discussed by councillors at a meeting later this month. If councillors support the proposals, a consultation will run in February and March.

Permission

At the meeting members will discuss whether to turn temporary permission for eight pitches at The Gatehouse site in Sandy Lane into a permanent camp. The panel will also discuss having six pitches on another Sandy Lane plot and one in Broach Road.

Land off Wilden Lane's industrial estate is also proposed to house the "cold season" site for the Jennings funfair family, due to move from its current base in Long Bank, Bewdley. Following the earlier public consultation, sites at Saiwen and Nunn's Corner in Sandy Lane and Gables Yard, Broach Road, have been approved by councillors. The newly-proposed sites will be discussed by Wyre Forest's scrutiny committee on January 30 at 6pm in Stourport Civic Hall.

Artists' annual exhibition

The Brierley Hill Society of Artists have launched their annual exhibition at Wordsley's Red House Glass Cone. The work includes watercolours inspired by local scenes as well as portraits and still-life drawings. The exhibition will run until April 1.

Big row breaks out



Nutri-Centre manager Zafran Hussain, and customer service manager Raj Saidha go head-to-head with Birmingham Rowing Club's Emma Tod

EXPERT rowers, shoppers and staff looking to beat the festive excesses took part in a rowing competition at a Black Country supermarket.

Four machines were installed at the Tesco Express store, at Burnt Tree Island on the Dudley-Sandwell border, for challengers to pit their skills against each other.

And expert rowing teams from the

region also turned out to take part - with a team from Birmingham University eventually taking first place.

They completed a 2,000-metre circuit in five minutes and 26 seconds to take pole position in the challenge. The four-strong team each completed the equivalent of 500-metres on the machines to compile the winning time.



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Cash deadline in battle to save town fire station

CAMPAIGNERS have just six weeks to raise £10,000 to fund a legal bid to overturn plans which would close Halesowen fire station and axe a 24-hour crew.

They are now appealing to local businesses and residents to help their fight, which could end up costing the campaigners tens of thousands.

A judicial review is being launched over the decision to shut the fire station and cut the 24-hour crew which also serves Cradley Heath. But protesters need to pay solicitors a £10,000 deposit and submit papers to the High Court by February 28 – within three

months of the original decision being made.

It is estimated that up to £40,000 needs to be raised to fund the case.

Halesowen and Rowley Regis MP James Morris is working with the Halesowen and Cradley Heath Fire Station Action Group, including business and community leaders.

The group is also looking to organise fundraising events.

Protesters are concerned that the West Midlands Fire Authority plans will leave the area unprotected, and firefighters said the move was a "dark day for the public of Halesowen".

Work started on creating an 'urban village'

WORK has begun on the creation of more than 200 homes on a new estate – kickstarting a masterplan to transform an ailing area of Kidderminster. A total of 223 homes will be built on the Churchfields Business Park as part of plans to create an "urban village".

The proposals, by Bellway Homes, would see the housing development created in Clensmore Street. The plans are for two four-storey blocks of flats, and nine single flats above garages, with the remaining 194 units split between detached, semis and terraced homes.

Fear over implants



Jenna Johnson now worried about her implants

A WOMAN from the Black Country says she feels "extremely frightened and angry" after finding herself in the middle of a health scare over silicone breast implants.

Jenna Johnson, aged 27, believed she was having saline implants fitted when she had an operation privately two years ago after losing 6st.

But she has been horrified to learn they were filled with non-medical grade silicone intended for use in mattresses. They were manufactured by now-closed French company Poly Implant Protheses (PIP), which has hit the headlines after health concerns were raised. The French government told women with these implants to have them removed.

Miss Johnson, of The Infield, Cradley Heath, had her operation at The Hospital Group's Dolan Park cosmetic hospital in Bromsgrove. "I believed I had purchased saline implants not silicone ones so I'm extremely frightened and angry about all of this. I don't know whether I've had a rupture so I'm worried about what could happen."

The Hospital Group website, dated January 9, said: "The latest advice from the department of health continues to be there is not sufficient evidence to recommend routine removal of PIP implants, women who are concerned should speak with their GP."

Art group's work features in display

LANDSCAPES paintings, portraits and still life drawings form part of an art exhibition at Wordsley's Red House Glass Cone.

Members of the Brierley Hill and district society of artists are hosting their annual showcase until March 1. The majority of works will be on sale throughout the exhibi-

tion. It is the seventh time the cone, off Camp Hill, has held an exhibition by the society – now in its 65th year.

Admission is free and The Red House Glass Cone is open Monday to Sunday from 10am to 4pm. Call 01384 812750 or visit www.dudley.gov.uk/museums.

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Sandringham Hotel



6th-10th February £139

The Sandringham hotel offers a prime seafront position on Weston's beautiful seafront with easy access to all the local facilities. The Grand Pier, Winter Gardens and Sovereign Centre shopping precinct are close to the hotel. All bedrooms are en-suite, have colour television and tea/coffee making facilities. This carefully chosen hotel provides an excellent standard of cuisine and friendly atmosphere. The hotel is centrally heated and has a passenger lift, the prime position allows easy access to most local attractions. This super bargain break will include all coach transport, accommodation, English breakfast, evening meal, two excursions plus various evening entertainment.

Glastonbury Hotel - Eastbourne

27th February-2nd March

The Glastonbury Hotel, offers a prime position on the seafront. All rooms are en-suite with colour television and tea/coffee making facilities. A warm welcome can always be assured by all the staff with the chef taking great pride in the excellent standard of cuisine, served in the bright and spacious ground floor restaurant with beautiful sea views. Entertainment is provided on various evenings in the bar lounge or the well appointed fitness/bathroom to add to your enjoyment. This hotel offers everything you need for a relaxing holiday. This specially priced 5 day tour will include your coach transport, accommodation, English breakfast, evening meal, various evening entertainment plus two included excursions.

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5th-9th March Grosvenor hotel, Torquay 5 Days £169
26th-30th March Kistor Hotel, Torquay 5 Days £169
12th-16th March Carlton hotel, Isle of Wight 5 Days £169
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If an ad has an envelope icon next to it (as above) send your reply in an envelope (addressed to the advertisers Box number) Place this envelope in a further envelope addressed to **My Match, Classified Dept., Express & Star, Queen St, Wolverhampton WV1 3QL**. Include your name and address on the back of a cheque or Postal Order for £6 per reply (two replies for £10) Make cheques or postal orders to Express & Star. In your main letter, ensure you leave a contact number for the advertiser to reach you on.

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(T&C's below)

FUN loving lady, outgoing, honest, caring, likes socialising, seeks older male, 50-70, Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 383325

DONNA naughty 40's, pretty, loves nights in, gym, theatre, seeks someone to make me laugh, give lots of cuddles and go on fun dates. Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 383063

SARA educated independent attractive female, nervous about dating through advertising, so pls don't disappoint me by not replying. I promise I won't disappoint you! Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 383061

DEENA extremely naughty mistress, strict or sensual, sophisticated, feminine, discreet loves role play, seeks solvent older business gen 50yrs plus for fun relationship. Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 383059

JEAN 71, fun loving Shrewsbury lady, seeks caring gen of similar age, GSOH, N/S for companionship/outings. Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 373657

TRISHA 50, attractive, black, outgoing, thoughtful, caring, understanding, likes holidays, seeks similar loving gen. Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 383073

SARAH 52, fun loving, affectionate, outgoing, likes pubs, meals out, walks, holidays, seeks kind, romantic, loving gen. Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 382359

CLARE 25yr old single mum looking for fun times. I have red/blonde hair, blue eyes and am up for lots of fun. Any age/looks/status. Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 382211

LAURA slim green eyed 25yr old female looking for good times only. Any age/status. Must be adventurous and confident. Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 382209

JEAN 51, slim, busty blonde, new to dating and fed up of going through the pub scene, WLTm down to earth male for adult company. Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 382207

KATIE pretty slim blonde female, 35, N/S, likes pubs, countryside, meals out, seeking outgoing male for fun times, maybe relationship. Interested? AKA. Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 382205

STACEY young sensual 20yr old looking for fun times. Call me to find out more. Status unimportant. Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 382091

MICHELLE blonde blue eyed happy female, loves heels and being feminine, OHAC, self sufficient, looking for male for long term romance and more. Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 382089

JESSIE single mum 24 looking for her Mr Right for equally respectful relationship, hopefully blossoming into love. Single dads welcome. Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 382087

ATTRACTIVE female, 42, slim, brunette, no ties, N/S, likes travel, nights out, weekends away, seeks slim male for possible relationship. Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 327579

JENNY blue eyed cuddly independent female, loves countryside, animals, cooking, WLTm older male to spoil and look after. Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 378481

KIRSTY 36 attractive, blonde, seeking open-minded decent male for fun friendship, 40-60yrs. Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 373013

ANNA 29yr old nurse, 6ft curvy auburn beauty, likes cosy nights in, genuinely seeking older, well built male to look after, 40-60yrs. Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 375139

I'M attractive, very tactile with an hourglass figure, looking for fun and good times. Can you help? Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 368889

SHARON 32, attractive black single mum of one, very tactile and WLTm male 45-65yrs for fun meets. Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 376565

PAULINE attractive petite nurse, loves evenings in/out, looking for honest male to share loving friendship and good times. Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 379535

JOY very hot fun loving 35yr old American female over on regular business, looking for English gen for mutually convenient friendship. Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 378507

VERY attractive 18yr old fitness instructor looking to burn some extra calories with older experienced male who thinks he can keep up. 30-60, ACA. Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 364311

DIVORCED very lonely single mum, young looking, slim, attractive, WLTm similar male for companionship. Age/looks/Status unimportant. Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 370023

SUZANNA lovely beautiful classy French lady looking for happy decent reliable man for lots of TLC and good times. Any status. Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 375711

BETTY fuller figured black female, 26, body confident, affectionate, WLTm older chocolate loving male for daytime meets. Any status. Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 377511

5FT 11ins female, brown hair, blue eyes, seeks male, 40-50. Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 382099

ATTRACTIVE 45yr old female, seeks genuine, attractive male, 38-48 for friendship/relationship. Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 388550

SASHA Attractive curvaceous brunette, energetic, loving, professional seeks well balanced appreciative male for relationship. AKA. Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 381735

SUE 45yr old slim attractive blonde, loves working out, cooking, meals out, animals, looking for romance and good times with appreciative male. Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 381711

OLIVIA green eyed slim brunette seeking understanding male for mutual companionship and nice times. Age unimportant. Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 381707

DAWN attractive, slim female, 45, N/S, no ties, WLTm tall, fit male with get up and go attitude towards life. Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 375825

HOME alone with no one to call my own! 38yr old naughty girl looking for fun. Can travel. Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 363277

CARLY beautiful slim brunette looking for mature male 50-70yrs for fun. Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 376569

29YR old large black female looking for much older male, up to 70yrs, for naughty friendship. Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 370017

SLIM attractive lady with long auburn hair just wants to have a good time with likeminded older guy up to 75yrs. Looks/status unimportant. Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 368119

JANE 40's, blonde blue eyed petite build, with ties, WLTm kind, loving male to look after, 40-60yrs. Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 375141

SARAH 38, slim, nice looking, tactile, no ties, WLTm kind, loving male to enjoy affectionate relationship. Any age/looks. Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 378483

YOUNG looking attractive slim blonde, very lonely, WLTm nice guy for whatever life throws at us. No expectations. Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 370111

CURVY red haired female, been hurt in the past seeks older male to buy her flowers and mend her broken heart. Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 377432

LOVING caring young 67yr old female, 5'2ins, slim, size 12, brown hair, likes meals out, GSOH, smoker, seeks slim, smart male with GSOH, 58-62. Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 364651

JANE 46, single mum, N/S, romantic, likes dancing, nights out, music, seeking male, 40-50 for friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 380591

LOUISA looking for lovely, young male, 20-30's, easygoing for fun. Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 380469

MANDY 36, size 10, looking for relationship with open-minded man. Status unimportant. Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 360317

RACHEL 38, slim, attractive, works full time, seeks sensitive, funny gen for friendship, companionship, hopefully relationship. Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 379229

DIONNE 51 3ins, blonde hair, blue eyes, medium build, 42, single mum, seeks male. Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 376801

CLARE good looking, beautiful blonde, seeks male for fun and friendship. Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 378209

FEMALE looking for gent, 65-70, caring, loving and independent. Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 378295

LOUISE 43, 5ft 5ins, medium build, GSOH, kind, caring, honest, genuine, loving, WLTm male, 43-55 with similar qualities for LTR. Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 376165

JANICE attractive female, 50, size 12-14, seeks younger gent, 40-50 for fun. Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 376115

MARIA 38, blonde, 5ft 5ins, caring, likes nights in/out, seeks caring male for friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 329319

KATHY caring lady 60, medium build, smoker, seeks caring, smart male 55-65 for companionship. Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 374773

ELAINE kind, romantic, loving 43, seeks genuine male for relationship. Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 374845

JEAN 71, fun loving Shropshire lady, seeks caring gen of similar age, GSOH, N/S for companionship/outings. Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 373657

FARMER'S granddaughter, OHAC, stunningly attractive, respectable, sincere, WLTm countryman/bachelor, 48-62, 5ft 9ins plus, genuine, uncomplicated with GSOH and TLC. Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 387204

POLLY dark hair, 50, attractive, outgoing, seeks special outgoing male for days out etc. Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 371127

LITTLE bit nice and definitely a little bit naughty! Imaginative curvy blonde seeks male for kisses and cuddles. Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 363428

TRACY attractive young blonde with great figure, likes nights in/out, looking for stimulating male for interesting meets. Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 380389

CAROL petite brunette, 38yrs, romantic, affectionate, outgoing, seeks similar male for nice times together. Any age/looks. Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 377513

GORGEOUS 26yr old independent female with lots to offer to the right person, seeks similar. Willing to travel. Any age/status welcome. Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 358141

RACHAEL 49yrs young slim, caring, sincere and fun loving, WLTm similar male with GSOH for mutual companionship, perhaps more. Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 381343

BIG is beautiful! Female looking for someone to share a life time of happiness with. Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 386528

LOUISE 35, dark hair, blue eyes, attractive ex air hostess, looking for fun with older male for romantic nights in and more. Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 381341

SHARON 37, social, WLTm male who likes good conversation, theatre, keeping fit and most of all who will appreciate a real woman. ACA. Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 381345

HOLLY 25, slim, attractive, brunette, likes gym, WLTm nice, sensitive male of similar age for friendship/relationship. Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 380851

SLIM female, 5ft 9ins, blonde, likes weekends away, meals out, seeks handsome chap to court me, then maybe more. Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 369295

KIND romantic female, 50, seeking a male to talk, maybe more. Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 386429

OPTIMISTIC Shropshire lass, slim, gorgeous, seeks good looking gent, 40-50 with GSOH. Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 362033

RAQUEL dark hair, tattooed, single mum, genuine, slim, petite, affectionate, sensitive, seeks special male. Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 366755

VANESSA fun loving single mum, 5ft 4ins, brown eyes, seeks kind, loving, genuine male for friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 341135

WIDOWED lady 70's, likes countryside, travel, seaside, seeks nice gent to spend time with. Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 362993

MARK 44, caring, honest, faithful, looking for love with a lady to share love and my heart with. Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 382939

DIY gardening, friendly geek required by friendly 55yr old attractive teacher, soulful lady to share sunny days and starlit nights in my hilltop cottage garden. Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 365137

BLONDE tanned female, trendy, 46, GSOH, likes walks, pubs, nights in, seeks male. Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 384852

PROFESSIONAL independent lady, 49, slim, blonde, attractive, varied interests, seeks intelligent, romantic, sincere, genuine male with GSOH for companionship, maybe more. Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 393951

CARING and honest lady 61, 5ft 2ins, WLTm very caring and honest gentleman. Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 357985

men seeking women

Ladies Text n' Chat. Text in now and chat to local people. Send : CHAT207 To : 65125. (T&C's below).

CLIVE 48, divorced, 2 children, seeks female for friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 389158

ATTRACTIVE tall professional, Indian male, 47, enjoys sport, socialising, good company, GSOH, easygoing, looking to meet a lady with GSOH for friendship and more. Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 383431



MALE 60, N/S, average looks, black hair, likes meals out, seeks female, 50-70, looks unimportant. Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 383425

MALE 54, seeks female 60 plus for discreet fun. Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 389114

GENUINE professional male, 50, many interests, seeks female for friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 382849

ROY likes meals out, walks, weekends away, seeks romantic, caring, honest female for LTR. Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 382789

CLIVE 48, divorced, 2 children, seeks female for friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 389158

IAN 51 10ins, 55, caring, honest, looking for sincere female with good personality, 45-55, enjoy being out, socialising, meals. Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 382997

63YR old male, widower, retired, looking for female of any age/status for fun relationship, maybe more. Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 389132

MARK 44, caring, honest, faithful, looking for love with a lady to share love and my heart with. Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 382939

SIMON mid 40's, 5ft 9ins, medium, well toned, love fun filled evenings to relax, cooking, music to more natural fun things, WLTm delicious looking and thinking female. Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 382919

MALE 57, good looking, no ties, loyal, serene, seeks sincere female for TLC, soul mates forever. Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 382917

DANIEL 49, tall, attractive, GSOH, seeks lady for fun relationship. Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 382559

BILLY 50, black, Christian, 5ft 5ins, GSOH, seeks warm, genuine, Christian lady. Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 382425

FUN loving professional male, 37, seeks female for company, nights in/out, maybe more. Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 382417

62YR old male, divorced, medium build, dark hair, GSOH, enjoys music, sport, gardening, socialising, seeks local lady for LTR. Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 382401

KEVIN solvent, 6ft 2ins, athletic, looking for soul mate. Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 382385

JOE seeking fun, sexy girl in similar area. Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 382345

PAUL OHAC, N/S, divorced, average guy, sociable, tactile, likes most things, seeks lady for LTR. Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 382335

62YR old honest, caring gent, seeks female for LTR. Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 357121

LOVING caring 63yr old widower, seeks lady for caring relationship and to share the good things in life. Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 379341

MALE likes walks, talks, cooking, theatre, seeks female for fun. Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 381771

MIKE friendly guy 48, tall, fit, GSOH, seeks lady for fun. Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 376921

MARK single dad, seeking female for nights in/out, possible relationship. Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 381779

MALE 58, 5ft 8ins, medium build, short hair, GSOH, seeks female, 50-60 to share happiness and life with. Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 370649

KEVIN 44, divorced, 5ft 8ins, brown hair, blue eyes, medium build, easygoing, down to earth, likes meals out, cinema, seeks N/S female. Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 377207

JEFF slim, fit, active, 60, open-minded, seeks attractive lady, 40-60 for fun. Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 379997

54YR old divorced male, OHAC, seeks female under 50 for fun. Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 379729

ATTRACTIVE tall honest guy, 48, polite, respectful with GSOH, seeks female for fun relationship. Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 371823

JOHN 48, 5ft 10ins, warm, intelligent, hardworking, unconventional, unpretentious, seeks sensitive, intelligent lady. Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 388412

TALL handsome male, 41, GSOH, likes romantic days/nights in/out, WLTm attractive, down to earth, young lady, 35-55, size unimportant. Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 348611

HELP help, help inexperienced CD, 52, seeks understanding female for fun and excitement. Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 226021

DAVE 44 slim, good looking, N/S, 5ft 9ins, no ties, WLTm slim, attractive, fun loving girl for relationship. Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 381547

ALAN



So much to see... including the imposing Houses of Parliament (above) and (right) for a close-up of where our MPs make their decisions book a trip to the House of Commons

A cruise along the Thames is a real treat where you can see the sights along the way including the London Eye



London – capital place to visit but ditch the car

LONDON is a capital place to visit but there's one thing you don't want to take with you – the car.

Driving along those busy streets is no fun so let the coach do the work while you sit back and enjoy the sights – and there's plenty of them. With all the special coach deals around a theatre break including the return journey, time for shopping and a show can work out just a few pounds dearer than the normal cost of the theatre ticket and what a way to beat those post Christmas blues.

Like so many people I am not used to being without the four wheels but I must say going by coach made a wonderful change and probably saved a fortune on petrol costs.

We stayed at the handily-placed Hilton Metropole in Edgware Road within walking distance of Marylebone rail station and tube and not too far from the shopping mecca, Oxford Street. As well as a ground floor lounge bar the four-star hotel has a beautiful bar on the 25th floor with fantastic views over the city.

Cruise

You could visit London numerous times and never run out of places to see. Hop back on to the coach and head off to the Houses of Parliament. A visit to the Commons is fascinating and you can see where your MP spends his or her time. It does look surprisingly smaller than when you see it on the TV.

Most trips will allow you some spare time for sightseeing or shopping or stopping for a bite to eat or a coffee.

Instead of just going out for a meal why not combine it with a cruise down the Thames. City Cruises' showboats offer the best of all worlds, three-course meal and entertainment that wouldn't be out of place in a top show. The benefit of being

Relax on a coach and see the sights without having to battle the traffic

on the coach means that you can have a guided tour, pointing out all the best sights and the courier can give you the history and stories about them, the sort of tit bits that you may not be able to read on any website or in a travel guide.

It also means that you can actually have good luck at the sights instead of glimpsing them while you are driving along trying to dodge the many cyclists in the city.

Jewels

Next day off to the Tower of London and a glimpse of those famous crown jewels and a chance to discover the history of a royal palace, an armoury and a powerful fortress.

And for a jewel in the London pub scene check out the historic Anchor pub by the river in Southwark. A timbered pub, it may look small from the outside but it is a maze of rooms.

On to Greenwich, the place to be this year with the Olympics as the equestrian events will be held there. There is a special clock at the Royal Observatory counting down the days to the start of the Olympics. Walk across to the National Maritime museum and the World Heritage site.

And while you are in London this is a MUST. Make sure you book into one of the many fantastic shows that are on offer at the array of theatres. London remains one of the most popular destinations for coach tours and if you are wanting to book a show this is probably one of the most cost-effective ways to combine a tour with shopping and a show.

As the coach firm can normally book up

show tickets at discount prices and sort out hotel deals, it can work out far more affordable to do it this way then book separately and have to sort out and pay for your travel and overnight stay if you plan to make a weekend of it.

And such trips are not confined to London, check out deals with the coach companies and you will find an endless list of trips on offer, both in this country and overseas.

Coach tourism is one of the UK's biggest travel sectors. More than seven million people are expected to join the trend to holidaying in the UK by taking a coach tour. And moving out of the big cities going by coach is the best way to see dramatic scenery and rolling countryside whether it be the Peak District, Yorkshire Dales or the Scottish Highlands.

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FACT FILE
For general information on coach tours visit www.findacoachholiday.com. Tickets for shows can be booked through agencies such as Group Line via www.LOVEtheatre.com. For general tourist information go to www.visitlondon.com

Local operators who offer day trips and short breaks to London include:

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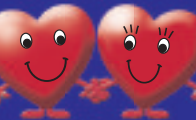
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6.00 Breakfast. 10.00 Saturday Kitchen Live. 11.30 Nigel Slater's Simple Suppers. (R) 12.00 BBC News: Regional News; Weather. 12.15 Football Focus. 1.00 Live Snooker: The Masters. The opening semi-final. 4.30 Final Score. 5.15 BBC News: Regional News; Weather. 5.35 Winter Wipeout.

6.35 The Magicians. Great British Bake Off presenter Mel Giedroyc, former world heavyweight boxing champion David Haye and Got to Dance judge Kimberly Wyatt join the professionals.

7.50 The National Lottery: Who Dares Wins. Nick Knowles presents the game show in which two pairs of complete strangers team up each battling to outdo the other by listing as much as they know about a given subject.

8.40 Casualty. Linda's sister turns up in the ED, on the run from social services and desperate for a place to stay, while Lloyd's actions put a patient in danger.

9.30 Live at the Apollo. Jack Whitehall hosts the stand-up show. Last in the series.

10.00 BBC News; Weather. 10.20 Match of the Day. Including highlights of Queens Park Rangers v Wigan Athletic; National Lottery Update.

11.45 The Football League Show. Highlights of today's games in the Championship, League One and League Two.

1.00 Weatherview. 1.05 BBC News.

6.00 CBeebies. 7.00 CBBC. 12.00 Film: Whale Rider. (2002) Drama, starring Keisha Castle-Hughes. 1.35 Film: Fire Down Below. (1957) Romantic drama, with Rita Hayworth, Robert Mitchum, Jack Lemmon and Bonar Colleano. 3.30 Escape to the Country. (R) 4.30 Live Snooker: The Masters. The opening semi-final. 5.30 Pappano's Essential Tosca. (R)



6.30 Flog It! Charlie Ross and Elizabeth Talbot appraise collectibles at Ely Cathedral in Cambridgeshire, while Paul Martin explores the building's history. (R)

7.30 Dad's Army. A major decides Corporal Jones is too old to be in the Home Guard unless he can complete an assault course. (R)

8.00 Live Snooker: The Masters. The second semi-final. Further coverage from Alexandra Palace, where the line-up for the final of the non-ranking tournament is decided.

10.30 FILM: Doubt. (2008) Premiere. A disciplinarian nun at a Catholic school suspects a charismatic priest of behaving inappropriately with a student. Drama, with Meryl Streep.

12.10 Snooker Extra. 2.10 Close.

6.00 CITY: Mini CITY. 7.25 CITY. 9.25 ITV News. 9.35 Film: Richie Rich. (1994) Family comedy, starring Macaulay Culkin. 11.25 This Morning: Saturday. 12.25 Murder, She Wrote. (R) 1.30 Murder, She Wrote. (R) 2.30 ITV News; Weather. 2.45 Animals Do the Funniest Things. (R) 3.45 Film: Jurassic Park III. (2001) Action adventure sequel, starring Sam Neill. 5.30 Regional Programmes. 5.45 ITV News; Weather.

6.00 New You've Been Framed! Harry Hill narrates camcorder calamities.

6.30 Harry Hill's TV Burp. 7.00 Take Me Out. A personal trainer, a football freestyler, a student and a mobile-phone salesman take part.

8.15 The Talent Show Story. The changing role of the talent-show host.

9.15 The Jonathan Ross Show. With Daniel Radcliffe, Noel Fielding, David Attenborough and Seal.



10.15 ITV News; Weather. 10.30 Celebrity Juice. With Oily Murs and Caroline Flack. 11.15 FILM: Inside I'm Dancing. (2004) Drama, with James McAvoy.

1.05 The Zone; ITV News Headlines. 3.05 In Plain Sight. 3.50 ITV News; Weather. 5.30 ITV Morning News.

6.05 Sali Mali. (R) 6.10 The Hoobs. (R) 6.35 The Hoobs. (R) 7.00 Freesports on 4. (R) 7.25 GT Academy. 7.55 The Morning Line. 8.55 T4: Everyone's Talking About - Top 10. 9.25 T4: Live and Lost: Chipmunk. (R) 9.55 T4: The Big Bang Theory. (R) 10.25 T4: Desperate Scousewives. 11.25 T4: The Simpsons. (R) 11.55 T4: New Girl. (R) 12.25 T4: Playing It Straight. 1.25 T4: The Big Bang Theory. (R) 1.55 Channel 4 Racing. 4.20 Channel 4 Presents - Will Bayley 2012. (R) 4.25 Come Dine with Me. (R) 5.30 Channel 4 News.

6.00 4thought.tv. A woman explains her approval of China's population-control policy.

6.05 FILM: Fame. (2009) Musical remake, with Kay Panabaker, Natari Naughton and Kherington Payne.



6.15 The Million Pound Drop Live. Quiz show, presented by Davina McCall.

9.50 FILM: Transporter 2. (2005) Action thriller sequel, starring Jason Statham and Alessandro Gassman.

11.30 FILM: The Abyss. (1989) Sci-fi thriller, with Ed Harris.

2.05 The Island. (R) 2.20 Abductees. (R) 2.35 St Elsewhere. (R) 3.25 90210. (R) 4.05 Force of Nature. (R) 4.30 Lost Buildings of Britain. (R) 5.25 Countdown. (R)

6.00 Milkshake! 10.00 Animal Rescue Squad. (R) 10.20 It's All About Amy. (R) 11.20 Celebrity Big Brother: The Eviction. (R) 12.20 Celebrity Big Brother: The Eviction. (R) 12.50 Film: Along Came Polly. (2004) Romantic comedy, starring Ben Stiller and Jennifer Aniston. 2.30 Film: 55 Days at Peking. (1963) Fact-based period drama, starring Charlton Heston. 5.30 Film: Joe Kidd. (1972) Western, starring Clint Eastwood.

7.10 5 News Weekend. 7.15 NCIS. Gibbs revisits his home town to investigate an assault that left one Marine dead and another badly injured - and enlists the help of his estranged father to identify the assailant. (R)

8.15 Celebrity Big Brother. A round-up of Friday's action from the star-studded bungalow, including another celebrity packing their suitcase and returning to their normal lives away from 24-hour scrutiny.

9.15 FILM: Made of Honor. (2008) Romantic comedy, starring Patrick Dempsey, Michelle Monaghan, Kevin McKidd and Kadeem Hardison.

11.10 Celebrity Wedding Planner. With former Apprentice contestants Raef Blaygow and Stuart Baggs. (R)

12.10 SuperCasino. 4.00 Great Artists. (R) 4.25 Divine Designs. (R) 4.50 County Secrets. (R) 5.00 Hana's Helpline. (R) 5.10 The Milkshake! Show. (R) 5.35 Thomas & Friends. (R) 5.45 Roary the Racing Car. (R)

ITV2 3.35 American Idol 6.25 Film: The Borrowers. (1997) Children's fantasy, starring John Goodman, Jim Broadbent, Celia Imrie, Flora Newblin and Tom Felton. Including FV1 Daily. 8.15 Take Me Out - The Gossip 9.00 Film: Notting Hill (1999) 11.25 Film: Analyze This. (1999) Comedy, with Robert De Niro, Billy Crystal, Lisa Kudrow, Chazz Palminteri and Joe Viterelli. Including FV1 Daily.

ITV3 2.45 Bertie and Elizabeth 4.45 A Touch of Frost 7.00 Rosemary & Thyme 8.00 Doc Martin 9.00 Foyle's War 11.00 Wallis and Edward

ITV4 3.15 Film: Licence to Kill (1989) 5.55 Film: Where Eagles Dare (1969) 9.00 Ali: Still the Greatest 10.00 Film: When We Were Kings. (1996) Oscar-winning documentary, by Leon Gast. 11.50 Film: American HistoryX. (1998) Drama, starring Edward Norton.

BBC THREE 7.00 Top Gear. Michael Sheen is the Star in a Reasonably Priced Car. 8.00 Sherlock 9.30 Film: Enemy of the State (1998) 11.35 Family Guy

BBC FOUR 7.00 Amazon: Unnatural Histories 8.00 Shook and Awe: The Story of Electricity 9.00 Borgen 11.00 Top of the Pops: 1977 11.35 Word Up! - Black American Pop at the BBC

E4 1.25 Hollyoaks 6.00 Desperate Scousewives 5.05 Scrubs 6.05 The Big Bang Theory 7.05 Happy Endings 7.35 How I Met Your Mother 8.00 Rules of Engagement 8.35 The Big Bang Theory 9.00 Film: Beverly Hills Cop (1984) 11.10 The Big Bang Theory

FILM4 2.50 Paths of Glory (1957) 4.35 Hope Floats (1998) 6.50 Rat Race (2001) 9.00 Role Models (2008) Comedy, starring Paul Rudd and Sean William Scott. 11.00 44 Inch Chest (2009)

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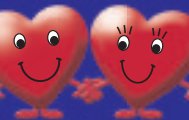
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6.00 Breakfast. **7.30** Match of the Day. (R) **9.00** The Andrew Marr Show. **10.00** The Big Questions. **11.00** Country Tracks: Weather for the Week Ahead. **12.00** Sunday Politics. **1.00** EastEnders. **2.55** The Royal Bodyguard. (R) **3.25** Escape to the Country. **4.25** Songs of Praise. **5.00** Regional Programmes. **5.30** Antiques Roadshow. (R)

6.30 BBC News: Regional News: Weather.

7.00 Countryfile. Matt Baker takes a walk through the Wye Valley. Ellie Harrison learns of a local restoration project, and John Craven investigates the controversy surrounding veal.

8.00 Call the Midwife. Miranda Hart joins the cast as clumsy new midwife Chummy. Jessica Raine and Amy McAllister co-star in the period medical drama.

9.00 Birdsong. First of a two-part drama adapted from Sebastian Faulks' novel. A man begins an affair with a married woman in pre-First World War France.

10.25 BBC News: Regional News: Weather.

10.50 Match of the Day 2. Including highlights of Arsenal v Manchester United.

11.55 Room 101 - Extra Storage. Frank Skinner hosts a revamped version of the show.

12.35 Weather. **12.40** Sign Zone: Film 2012 with Claudia Winkleman. (R) **1.20** Holly City. (R) **2.20** Hairy Bikers' Best of British. (R) **3.05** Celebrity Antiques Road Trip. (R) **4.05** BBC News.

6.00 CBeebies. **7.00** CBBC. **10.00** Something for the Weekend. **11.30** Film: The High and the Mighty. (1954) Disaster thriller, starring John Wayne. **1.50** Live Snooker: The Masters. **4.45** Ski Sunday. **5.30** Porridge. (R)

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6.00 The Last Explorers. New series. Neil Oliver examines the feats of four Scottish adventurers who helped to shape the modern world with their discoveries and ideas, beginning with David Livingstone.

7.00 The Many Faces of Les Dawson. Profile of the Manchester-born comedian. (R)

8.00 Live Snooker: The Masters. The concluding session of the final. Coverage from Alexandra Palace, London, where the first player to win 10 frames will be crowned champion. Subsequent programmes subject to change.

11.00 Frank Skinner's Opinionated. With Alun Cochrane and Sarah Millican. (R)

11.30 Fast and Loose. Featuring David Armand, Greg Davies and Justin Edwards. Last in the series. (R)

12.00 Film: Jacknife. (1989) Drama, starring Robert De Niro and Ed Harris. **1.40** BBC News. **4.10** Close.

6.00 CITV: Mini CITV. **7.25** CITV. **9.25** ITV News. **9.30** Ade in Britain. (R) **10.30** Dinner Date. (R) **11.30** Dickinson's Real Deal. (R) **12.30** ITV News: Weather. **12.40** Murder, She Wrote. (R) **1.45** Film: Columbo: Requiem for a Falling Star. (1973) **3.45** Vera. (R) **5.40** Regional Programmes. **5.55** ITV News: Weather.

6.10 Dancing on Ice. The 13 remaining contestants perform on the same show for the first time, skating to songs from films in a bid to wow the judges and viewers and survive another week on the ice. The results can be seen at 9.30pm.

8.30 Wild at Heart. Danny finds a potential lifeline for the family as he pitches for a grant that would enable him to buy Leopard's Den, but his old boss Ed Lynch is also competing for the money.

9.30 Dancing on Ice: The Skate Off.

10.00 That Sunday Night Show. With Ardal O'Hanlon and Ross Noble.

10.30 ITV News: Weather.

10.45 FILM: Alexander. (2004) Historical epic, starring Colin Farrell.

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1.45 The Zone. ITV News Headlines. **2.00** Ladette to Lady: Australia. (R) **2.50** ITV Nightscreen. **5.30** ITV Morning News.

6.10 The Hoobs. (R) **6.35** The Hoobs. (R) **7.00** Freeports on 4. (R) **7.30** Channel 4: Presents - Oscar Pistorius 'Blade Runner' The Paralympic gold medalist explains his motivations. (R) **7.35** T4: That Paralympic Show. (R) **8.00** T4: One Tree Hill. (R) **8.50** T4: Hollyoaks. (R) **11.20** T4: The Big Bang Theory. (R) **11.55** T4: Shipwrecked: The Island. **12.55** T4: The Simpsons. (R) **1.35** T4: The Simpsons. (R) **2.05** Film: Ladyhawke. (1985) Fantasy, starring Rutger Hauer and Michelle Pfeiffer. **4.25** Deal or No Deal. **5.25** Channel 4 News. **5.55** 4thought.tv.

6.00 Time Team. New series. Gateholm Island, Pembrokeshire.

7.00 Hugh's Three Hungry Boys. The friends explore what the sea has to offer.

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8.00 The Hotel. Manager Mark throws a pool party for guests.

9.00 FILM: 127 Hours. (2010) Premiere. Danny Boyle's fact-based drama, with James Franco and Kate Mara.

10.50 Chris Moyles' Quiz Night. (R)

11.40 Ben Elton: Laughing at the 80s. (R)

1.35 Coming Up: Geronimo. (R) **2.05** Hallel Pando. (R) **2.35** A Film from My Parish. (R) **2.45** St Elsewhere. (R) **3.35** 90210. (R) **4.15** Lost Buildings of Britain. (R) **5.10** Countdown. (R) **5.55** Sali Mali. (R)

6.00 Milkshake! Peppa Pig. **6.05** Roary the Racing Car. (R) **6.15** Fili and the Florentinos. (R) **6.25** Fireman Sam. (R) **6.40** Harry and His Bucket Full of Dinosaurs. (R) **6.50** Castle Farm. (R) **6.55** Igam Ogam. (R) **7.05** Roobarb and Custard Too. (R) **7.15** The Milkshake! Show. (R) **7.35** Make Way for Noddy. (R) **7.45** Bert and Ernie's Great Adventures. (R) **7.55** Little Princess. (R) **8.05** Olivia. (R) **8.20** The Adventures of Bottle Top Bill and His Best Friend Corky. (R) **8.30** Angelina Ballerina. **8.45** Rupert Bear. (R) **9.00** Ben and Holly's Little Kingdom. (R) **9.15** The Mr Men Show. (R) **9.30** Roary the Racing Car. (R) **9.40** Mist: Sheepdog Tales. (R) **10.00** Zoo Days. (R) **10.05** Meerkat Manor. (R) **10.35** Grey's Anatomy. (R) **11.30** Celebrity Big Brother. (R) **12.30** Benidorm ER. (R) **1.30** Film: Police Academy 3: Back in Training. (1986) Comedy sequel, with Steve Guttenberg. **3.05** Film: Little Man. (2006) Comedy, starring Marlon Wayans. **4.55** Film: Ace Ventura: When Nature Calls. (1995) Comedy sequel, starring Jim Carrey.

6.40 FILM: Spider-Man. (2002) Comic-book adventure, starring Tobey Maguire.

9.05 World's Greatest Heroes. (R)

9.55 5 News.

10.00 FILM: Single White Female. (1992) Thriller, starring Bridget Fonda and Jennifer Jason Leigh.

1.10 SuperCasino. **4.00** County Secrets. (R) **4.10** Great British Film from My Parish. (R) **4.35** Divine Designs. (R) **5.00** Hana's Helpline. (R) **5.10** The Milkshake! Show. (R) **5.35** Thomas & Friends. (R) **5.45** Roary the Racing Car. (R)

ITV2
2.45 Film: Back to the Future (1985) **5.00** Film: Batteries Not Included (1987) **7.05** Film: Ice Age: The Meltdown (2006) **9.00** Winners & Losers **10.00** Film: Miss Congeniality 2: Armed and Fabulous (2005)

ITV3
3.55 Film: From Time to Time (2009) **5.50** Agatha Christie's Poirot **9.00** Lewis. The detective suspects rock band veterans are mixed up in murder. Last in the series. **11.00** Cracker

ITV4
2.35 Film: The Big Country (1958) **5.55** The Professionals **7.00** UEFA Champions League Greatest Goals **7.10** Film: Escape to Victory (1981) **9.30** Africa Cup of Nations **11.00** Film: Lethal Weapon (1987)

BBC THREE
7.00 Film: Bee Movie (2007) **8.20** Great Movie Mistakes 2011: NOT IN 3D **8.30** World's Craziest Fools **9.00** Edinburgh Comedy Fest Live 2011 **10.00** American Dad! **10.45** Family Guy

BBC FOUR
7.00 Pugin: God's Own Architect **8.00** The Story of Musicals **9.00** Les Mis at 25: Matt Lucas Dreams the Dream **10.00** Film: The Boy Friend (1971)

E4
3.40 Being Erica **4.40** Samantha Who? **5.10** Film: Taxi (2004) **7.10** 90210 **8.05** David Blaine: Magic Man **9.00** Desperate Housewives **11.00** Rude Tube

FILM4
2.40 Carry On Nurse (1959) **4.20** Independence Day (1996) **7.00** Life or Something Like It. (2002) Comedy, starring Angelina Jolie, Edward Burns, Tony Shalhoub and Stockard Channing. **9.00** Working Girl. (1988) Comedy, starring Melanie Griffith, Sigourney Weaver and Harrison Ford. **11.10** White Men Can't Jump (1992)

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Monday

BBC1 6.00 Breakfast. 9.15 Wanted Down Under. 10.00 Homes Under the Hammer; (R) BBC News; Weather. 11.00 Saints and Scoundrels. 11.45 Britain's Empty Homes; BBC News; Weather. 12.15 Bargain Hunt. 1.00 BBC News; Weather. 1.30 Regional News; Weather. 1.45 Doctors. 2.15 Escape to the Country. 3.00 BBC News; Weather; Regional News. 3.05 CBBC. 5.15 Pointless. 6.00 BBC News; Weather. 6.30 Regional News Programmes; Weather. 7.00 The One Show. 7.30 Inside Out. BBC News; Regional News. 8.00 EastEnders. 8.30 Train Fares: Taken for a Ride? — Panorama. 9.00 The Royal Bodyguard. 9.30 Mrs Brown's Boys. 10.00 BBC News. 10.25 Regional News; Weather. 10.35 A Question of Sport. 11.05 Late Kick Off. 11.35 The Graham Norton Show. (R) 12.20 Weatherview. 12.35 Sign Zone: What Do You Think You Are? (R) 2.25 MasterChef: The Professionals. (R) 1.55 You've Been Scammed. (R) 2.40 Celebrity Antiques Road Trip. (R) 3.40 BBC News.

BBC2 6.00 CBeebies. 7.00 CBBC. 8.25 CBeebies. 11.30 BBC World News. 12.00 Daily Politics. 1.00 Live Bowls. 3.00 Helicopter Heroes. (R) 3.45 Flog It! 4.30 Perfection. 5.15 Put Your Money Where Your Mouth Is. 6.00 Eggheads. 6.30 Great British Railway Journeys. 7.00 Baking Made Easy. (R) 7.30 A Question of Taste. 8.00 University Challenge. 8.30 An Island Parish. 9.00 The Real Magnificent Men in Their Flying Machines: A Wonderland Film. 10.00 Mock the Week — Again. (R) 10.30 Newsnight; Weather. 11.20 American Football. 12.20 Bowls. 1.20 BBC News. 3.40 Close. 4.00 BBC Learning Zone.

ITV1 6.00 Daybreak. 8.30 Lorraine. 9.25 The Jeremy Kyle Show. 10.30 This Morning. 12.30 Loose Women. 1.30 ITV News; Weather. 1.55 Regional News; Weather. 2.00 Dickinson's Real Deal. 3.00 The Alan Titchmarsh Show. 3.59 Regional Weather. 4.00 The Hungry Sailors. 5.00 The Chase. 6.00 Regional News; Weather. 6.30 ITV News; Weather. 7.00 Emmerdale. 7.30 Coronation Street. 8.00 Cornwall with Caroline Quentin. 8.30 Coronation Street. 9.00 Above Suspicion: Silent Stream. 10.00 ITV News at Ten; Weather. 10.30 Regional News; Weather. 10.35 That Sunday Night Show. (R) 11.10 Law & Order: UK. (R) 12.05 River Monsters. (R) 12.30 The Zone; ITV News Headlines. 2.35 The Jeremy Kyle Show. (R) 3.30 ITV Nightscreen. 4.35 The Jeremy Kyle Show. (R) 5.30 ITV Morning News.

Channel 4 6.00 The Treacle People. (R) 6.10 The Hoobs. (R) 6.35 The Hoobs. (R) 7.00 Freshly Squeezed. 7.30 According to Jim. (R) 7.55 Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) 8.25 Frasier. (R) 8.55 Undercover Boss USA. (R) 9.55 Phil Spencer. Secret Agent. (R) 11.00 Secret Location. 12.00 Channel 4 News Summary. 12.05 A Place in the Sun: Home or Away. (R) 1.05 Channel 4 Presents — Ellie Simmonds 2010. (R) 1.10 River Cottage; Weather. 1.30 Film: Passport to Pimlico. (1949) 3.10 Countdown. 4.00 Deal or No Deal. 5.00 Celebrity Coach Trip. 5.30 Come Dine with Me. 6.00 The Simpsons. (R) 6.30 Hollyoaks. 7.00 Channel 4 News. 7.55 4thoughtv. 8.00 SuperScribers. 9.00 Coppers. 10.00 Party Paramedics. 11.05 Random Acts. 11.10 Shameless. (R) 12.15 The Joy of Teen Sex. (R) 1.10 Embarrassing Bodies. (R) 2.05 Undressing My Mother. (R) 2.10 Brain Damage. (R) 2.15 St Elsewhere. (R) 3.05 90210. (R) 3.45 Designers Under Pressure. (R) 4.00 Rome: The Model Empire. (R) 4.55 Lost Buildings of Britain. (R) 5.55 Sall Mail. (R)

Channel 5 6.00 Milkshake! 9.15 The Wright Stuff. 11.10 LIVE with Gabby. 12.10 5 News Lunchtime. 12.15 Celebrity Big Brother. (R) 1.15 Home and Away. 1.45 Neighbours. 2.15 CSI: Crime Scene Investigation. (R) 3.15 Film: Jane Doe: Ties That Bind. (2007) 5.00 5 News at 5. 5.30 Neighbours. (R) 6.00 Home and Away. (R) 6.30 5 News at 6.30. 7.00 World's Toughest Truckee. (R) 5 News Update. 8.00 Police Interceptors; 5 News at 9. 9.00 Celebrity Big Brother. 10.00 Celebrity Wedding Planner. 11.00 Celebrity Big Brother's Bit on the Side. 12.00 Kate Thornton — Anorexic. My Secret Past. (R) 1.00 SuperCasino. 4.00 Animal Rescue Squad. (R) 4.10 Grey's Anatomy. 5.00 County Secrets. (R) 5.10 House Doctor. (R)

Tuesday

BBC1 6.00 Breakfast. 9.15 Wanted Down Under. 10.00 Homes Under the Hammer; (R) BBC News; Weather. 11.00 Saints and Scoundrels. 11.45 Britain's Empty Homes; BBC News; Weather. 12.15 Bargain Hunt. (R) 1.00 BBC News; Weather. 1.30 Regional News; Weather. 1.45 Doctors. 2.15 Escape to the Country. 3.00 BBC News; Weather; Regional News. 3.05 CBBC. 5.15 Pointless. 6.00 BBC News; Weather. 6.30 Regional News Programmes; Weather. 7.00 The One Show. 7.30 EastEnders; BBC News; Regional News. 8.00 Holly City. 9.00 MasterChef: The Professionals. 9.30 The Crystal Palace (Kick-off 7.45pm). 10.00 Rhod Gilbert's Work Experience. (R) 10.30 Newsnight; Weather. 11.20 Royal Institution Christmas Lectures 2011 — Meet Your Brain. 12.20 Bowls. 1.20 BBC News. 4.00 BBC Learning Zone.

BBC2 6.00 CBeebies. 7.00 CBBC. 8.25 CBeebies. 11.30 BBC World News. 12.00 Daily Politics. 1.00 Live Bowls. The World Indoor Championships. 3.00 Helicopter Heroes. (R) 3.45 Flog It! 4.30 Perfection. 5.15 Put Your Money Where Your Mouth Is. 6.00 Eggheads. 6.30 Great British Railway Journeys. Michael Portillo visits Hadrian's Wall. 7.00 Escape to the Country. (R) 7.30 Match of the Day. Live. Cardiff City vs Crystal Palace (Kick-off 7.45pm). 10.00 Rhod Gilbert's Work Experience. (R) 10.30 Newsnight; Weather. 11.20 Royal Institution Christmas Lectures 2011 — Meet Your Brain. 12.20 Bowls. 1.20 BBC News. 4.00 BBC Learning Zone.

ITV1 6.00 Daybreak. 8.30 Lorraine. 9.25 The Jeremy Kyle Show. 10.30 This Morning. 12.30 Loose Women. 1.30 ITV News; Weather. 1.55 Regional News; Weather. 2.00 Dickinson's Real Deal. 3.00 The Alan Titchmarsh Show. 3.59 Regional Weather. 4.00 The Hungry Sailors. 5.00 The Chase. 6.00 Regional News; Weather. 6.30 ITV News; Weather. 7.00 Emmerdale. Moira takes matters into her own hands and visits Butler's Farm. 7.30 Farewell Becky. 8.00 The Exit List. 9.00 The Biggest Loser. 10.00 ITV News at Ten; Weather. 10.30 Regional News; Weather. 10.35 Benidorm. (R) 11.35 Homes from Hell 2009. (R) 12.30 The Zone; ITV News Headlines. 3.30 Crossing Jordan. (R) 3.50 ITV Nightscreen. 5.30 ITV Morning News.

Channel 4 6.00 The Treacle People. (R) 6.10 The Hoobs. (R) 6.35 The Hoobs. (R) 7.00 Freshly Squeezed. 7.30 According to Jim. (R) 7.55 Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) 8.30 Frasier. (R) 9.00 Undercover Boss USA. (R) 9.55 Phil Spencer. Secret Agent. (R) 11.00 Secret Location. 12.00 Channel 4 News Summary. 12.05 A Place in the Sun: Home or Away. (R) 1.05 River Cottage Bites. (R) 1.20 Film: Blithe Spirit. (1945) Supernatural comedy, starring Rex Haigh. 3.10 Countdown. 4.00 Deal or No Deal. 5.00 Celebrity Coach Trip. 5.30 Come Dine with Me. 6.00 The Simpsons. (R) 6.30 Hollyoaks. 7.00 Channel 4 News. 7.55 4thoughtv. 8.00 The Fat Fighters. 9.00 Regional News. Counting. The problems caused by sibling rivalry in large families. 10.00 Shameless. 11.05 Desperate Housewives. 12.00 Random Acts. 12.05 Poker. 1.10 Sailing: America's Cup. Uncovered. 1.35 KOTV Boxing Weekly. 2.05 Volleyball. 3.00 GT Academy. (R) 3.25 That Paralympic Show. (R) 3.55 Paralympic Wheelchair Rugby GB Cup 2011. (R) 4.50 European Wheelchair Fencing Championships 2011. (R) 5.15 Scrapheap Challenge. (R)

Channel 5 6.00 Milkshake! 9.15 The Wright Stuff. 11.10 LIVE with Gabby. 12.10 5 News Lunchtime. 12.15 Celebrity Big Brother. (R) 1.15 Home and Away. 1.45 Neighbours. 2.15 CSI: Miami. (R) 3.15 Film: Unhooked. (2009) Romantic drama, starring Julie Benz and Scott Elrod. 5.00 5 News at 5. 5.30 Neighbours. (R) 6.00 Home and Away. (R) 6.30 5 News at 6.30. 7.00 Police Interceptors; (R) 5 News Update. 8.00 Cowboy Builders; 5 News at 9. 9.00 Body of Proof. One of Megan's former patients murdered. 10.00 Celebrity Big Brother. 11.00 Celebrity Big Brother's Bit on the Side. 12.00 Celebrity Wedding Planner. (R) 1.00 SuperCasino. 3.55 HouseBusters. (R) 4.20 Michaela's Wild Challenge. (R) 5.10 House Doctor. (R)

Wednesday

BBC1 6.00 Breakfast. 9.15 Wanted Down Under. 10.00 Homes Under the Hammer; (R) BBC News; Weather. 11.00 Saints and Scoundrels. 11.45 Britain's Empty Homes; BBC News; Weather. 12.15 Bargain Hunt. 1.00 BBC News; Weather. 1.30 Regional News; Weather. 1.45 Doctors. 2.15 Escape to the Country. 3.00 BBC News; Weather; Regional News. 3.05 CBBC. 5.15 Pointless. 6.00 BBC News; Weather. 6.30 Regional News Programmes; Weather. 7.00 The One Show. 7.30 Rip Off Britain; BBC News; Regional News. 8.00 DIY SOS: The Big Build. (R) 9.00 MasterChef. 10.00 BBC News. 10.25 Regional News; Weather. 10.35 The National Lottery Wednesday Night Draws. 10.45 Film 2012 with Claudia Winkleman. 11.25 The League Cup Show; National Lottery Update. 12.10 Film: In Her Defense. (1998) Thriller, starring Marlee Matlin. 1.45 Weatherview. 1.50 Sign Zone: See Hear. (R) 2.20 Country Tracks. (R) 3.15 MasterChef: The Professionals. (R) 4.15 BBC News.

BBC2 6.00 CBeebies. 7.00 CBBC. 8.25 CBeebies. 11.30 Daily Politics. 1.00 See Hear. 1.30 Live Bowls. The World Indoor Championships. 3.00 Helicopter Heroes. (R) 3.45 Flog It! 4.30 Perfection. 5.15 Put Your Money Where Your Mouth Is. 6.00 Eggheads. 6.30 Great British Railway Journeys. 7.00 Hairy Bikers' Best of British. 9.00 Pullin' Russia & the West. 10.00 Never Mind the Buzzcocks. (R) 10.30 Newsnight; Weather. 11.20 Royal Institution Christmas Lectures 2011 — Meet Your Brain. 12.20 Bowls. 1.20 BBC News. 4.00 BBC Learning Zone.

ITV1 6.00 Daybreak. 8.30 Lorraine. 9.25 The Jeremy Kyle Show. 10.30 This Morning. 12.30 Loose Women. 1.30 ITV News; Weather. 1.55 Regional News; Weather. 2.00 Dickinson's Real Deal. 3.00 The Alan Titchmarsh Show. 3.59 Regional Weather. 4.00 The Hungry Sailors. 5.00 The Chase. 6.00 Regional News; Weather. 6.30 ITV News; Weather. 7.00 Emmerdale. 7.30 The National Television Awards 2012. 10.00 ITV News at Ten; Weather. 10.30 Regional News; Weather. 10.35 Film: The Constant Gardener. (2005) Political thriller, with Ralph Fiennes and Rachel Weisz. 12.50 The Zone; ITV News Headlines. 2.55 Film: Frantic. (1998) Kidnap thriller, starring Harrison Ford. 4.55 ITV Nightscreen. 5.30 ITV Morning News.

Channel 4 6.10 The Hoobs. (R) 6.35 Squeezed. 7.30 According to Jim. (R) 7.55 Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) 8.25 Frasier. (R) 8.55 Undercover Boss USA. (R) 9.55 Phil Spencer. Secret Agent. (R) 11.00 Secret Location. 12.00 Channel 4 News Summary. 12.05 A Place in the Sun: Home or Away. 1.05 River Cottage Bites. (R) 1.25 Film: The Belles of St Trinian's. (1954) Comedy, starring Alastair Sim. 3.10 Countdown. 4.00 Deal or No Deal. 5.00 Celebrity Coach Trip. 5.30 Come Dine with Me. 6.00 The Simpsons. (R) 6.30 Hollyoaks. 7.00 Channel 4 News. 7.55 4thoughtv. 8.00 How to Cook Like Heston. 8.30 The Fabulous Baker Brothers. 9.00 One Born Every Minute. 10.00 Countdown. 9 Out of 10 Cats. (R) 10.35 Film: Run Fat Boy Run. (2007) Romantic comedy, with Simon Pegg. 12.20 Random Acts. 12.35 Music on 4: Launched at Red Bull Studios. 1.05 Music on 4: Curated by Lyle and Scott. 2.05 Music on 4: Professor Green Unseen: After Hours. (R) 1.50 Music on 4: 4-Play: Beadyman. (R) 2.00 Film: That Riviera Touch. (1966) Comedy, starring Morecambe. (R) 4.30 Force of Nature. (R) 5.00 Gone Fishing. (R) 5.15 Countdown. (R)

Channel 5 6.00 Milkshake! 9.15 The Wright Stuff. 11.10 LIVE with Gabby. 12.10 5 News Lunchtime. 12.15 Celebrity Big Brother. (R) 1.15 Home and Away. 1.45 Neighbours. 2.15 CSI: Miami. (R) 3.15 Film: Homeycoming with Mom. (2006) 5.00 5 News at 5. 5.30 Neighbours. (R) 6.00 Home and Away. (R) 6.30 5 News at 6.30. 7.00 Cowboy Builders. (R) 5 News Update. 8.00 Benidorm. (R) 5 News at 9. 9.00 Celebrity Big Brother: Live Eviction. 10.00 Body of Proof. One of Megan's former patients murdered. 10.00 Celebrity Big Brother. 11.00 Celebrity Big Brother's Bit on the Side. 12.00 Poker: The Big Game. 1.30 SuperCasino. 3.55 HouseBusters. (R) 4.20 Nick's Quest. (R) 5.10 House Doctor. (R)

Thursday

BBC1 6.00 Breakfast. 9.15 Wanted Down Under. 10.00 Homes Under the Hammer; (R) BBC News; Weather. 11.00 Saints and Scoundrels. 11.45 Britain's Empty Homes; BBC News; Weather. 12.15 Bargain Hunt. 1.00 BBC News; Weather. 1.30 Regional News; Weather. 1.45 Doctors. 2.15 Escape to the Country. 3.00 BBC News; Weather; Regional News. 3.05 CBBC. 5.15 Pointless. 6.00 BBC News; Weather. 6.30 Regional News Programmes; Weather. 7.00 The One Show. 7.30 EastEnders; BBC News; Regional News. 8.00 Earthlight. 9.00 Crimewatch. 10.00 BBC News. 10.25 Regional News; Weather. 10.35 Crimewatch Update. 10.45 Question Time. 11.45 This Week. 12.30 Skating Weatherview. 12.35 Sign Zone: Train Fares: Taken for a Ride? — Panorama. (R) 1.05 Countryfile. (R) 2.05 Hairy Bikers' Best of British. (R) 2.50 Britain's Killer Roads. (R) 3.35 BBC News.

BBC2 6.00 CBeebies. 7.00 CBBC. 8.25 CBeebies. 11.30 BBC World News. 12.00 Daily Politics. 1.00 Live Bowls. Coverage of the women's singles final. 3.00 Helicopter Heroes. (R) 3.45 Flog It! 4.30 Perfection. 5.15 Put Your Money Where Your Mouth Is. 6.00 Eggheads. 6.30 Great British Railway Journeys. 7.00 Hairy Bikers' Best of British. Extravagant culinary creations. Last in the series. 8.00 Saxon Hoard: A Golden Bury. 9.00 Pullin' Russia & the West. 10.00 Never Mind the Buzzcocks. (R) 10.30 Newsnight; Weather. 11.20 Royal Institution Christmas Lectures 2011 — Meet Your Brain. (R) 12.20 Bowls. 1.20 BBC News. 3.35 Close. 4.00 BBC Learning Zone.

ITV1 6.00 Daybreak. 8.30 Lorraine. 9.25 The Jeremy Kyle Show. 10.30 This Morning. 12.30 Loose Women. 1.30 ITV News; Weather. 1.55 Regional News; Weather. 2.00 Dickinson's Real Deal. 3.00 The Alan Titchmarsh Show. 3.59 Regional Weather. 4.00 The Hungry Sailors. 5.00 The Chase. 6.00 Regional News; Weather. 6.30 ITV News; Weather. 7.00 Emmerdale. 7.30 Payback Time: Tonight. 8.00 Emmerdale. 8.30 Coronation Street. 9.00 Eternal Law. Fantasy. 9.30 The Fishmonger. 10.00 ITV News at Ten; Weather. 10.30 Regional News; Weather. 10.35 The Jonathan Ross Show. (R) 11.35 The Late Debate. 12.05 Take Me Out. (R) 1.00 The Zone; ITV News Headlines. 3.00 Payback Time. (R) 3.30 ITV Nightscreen. 4.35 The Jeremy Kyle Show. (R) 5.30 ITV Morning News.

Channel 4 6.00 The Treacle People. (R) 6.10 The Hoobs. (R) 6.35 The Hoobs. (R) 7.00 Freshly Squeezed. 7.30 According to Jim. 7.55 Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) 8.25 Frasier. (R) 8.55 Undercover Boss USA. (R) 9.55 Phil Spencer. Secret Agent. (R) 11.00 Secret Location. 12.00 Channel 4 News Summary. 12.05 A Place in the Sun: Home or Away. (R) 1.10 Film: The Third Man. (1949) Thriller, starring Joseph Cotten and Orson Welles. 10.00 ITV News. 4.00 Deal or No Deal. 5.00 Celebrity Coach Trip. 5.30 Come Dine with Me. 6.00 The Simpsons. (R) 6.30 Hollyoaks. 7.00 Channel 4 News. 7.55 4thoughtv. 8.00 How to Cook Like Heston. 8.30 The Fabulous Baker Brothers. 9.00 One Born Every Minute. 10.00 Countdown. 9 Out of 10 Cats. (R) 10.35 Film: Run Fat Boy Run. (2007) Romantic comedy, with Simon Pegg. 12.20 Random Acts. 12.35 Music on 4: Launched at Red Bull Studios. 1.05 Music on 4: Curated by Lyle and Scott. 2.05 Music on 4: Professor Green Unseen: After Hours. (R) 1.50 Music on 4: 4-Play: Beadyman. (R) 2.00 Film: That Riviera Touch. (1966) Comedy, starring Morecambe. (R) 4.30 Force of Nature. (R) 5.00 Gone Fishing. (R) 5.15 Countdown. (R)

Channel 5 6.00 Milkshake! 9.15 The Wright Stuff. 11.10 LIVE with Gabby. 12.10 5 News Lunchtime. 12.15 Celebrity Big Brother. (R) 1.15 Home and Away. 1.45 Neighbours. 2.15 CSI: NY. (R) 3.10 Film: Bridge of Time. (1997) Sci-fi adventure, starring Susan Day. 5.00 5 News at 5. 5.30 Neighbours. (R) 6.00 Home and Away. (R) 6.30 5 News at 6.30. 7.00 Building the Ice Hotel. (R) 5 News Update. 8.00 World's Greatest Daredevils. Spectacular and dangerous stunts; 5 News at 9. 9.00 Celebrity Big Brother. More from the star-studded house. 10.00 Celebrity Big Brother's Bit on the Side. 11.00 It's All About Amy. 12.00 SuperCasino. 3.50 HouseBusters. (R) 4.15 Nick's Quest. (R) 5.10 House Doctor. (R) 5.35 Michaela's Wild Challenge. (R)

Friday

BBC1 6.00 Breakfast. 9.15 Wanted Down Under. 10.00 Homes Under the Hammer; (R) BBC News; Weather. 11.00 Saints and Scoundrels. 11.45 Britain's Empty Homes; BBC News; Weather. 12.15 Bargain Hunt. 1.00 BBC News; Weather. 1.30 Regional News; Weather. 1.45 Doctors. 2.15 Escape to the Country. 3.00 BBC News; Weather; Regional News. 3.05 CBBC. 5.15 Pointless. 6.00 BBC News; Weather. 6.30 Regional News Programmes; Weather. 7.00 The One Show; BBC News; Regional News. 8.00 EastEnders. 8.30 Room 101. 9.00 Hustle. 10.00 BBC News. 10.25 Regional News; Weather. 10.35 The Graham Norton Show. 11.20 The National Lottery Friday Night Draws. 11.30 Film: Starship Troopers. (1997) Sci-fi adventure, starring Casper Van Dien. 12.35 Weatherview. 1.30 Sign Zone: Question Time. (R) 2.30 MasterChef: The Professionals. (R) 3.30 BBC News.

BBC2 6.00 CBeebies. 7.00 CBBC. 8.25 CBeebies. 11.30 BBC World News. 12.00 Daily Politics. 1.00 Live Bowls. The World Indoor Championships quarter-finals. 3.00 Helicopter Heroes. (R) 3.45 Flog It! 4.30 Perfection. 5.15 Put Your Money Where Your Mouth Is. 6.00 Eggheads. 6.30 Great British Railway Journeys. 7.00 Great Barrier Reef. (R) 8.00 Mastermind. 8.30 On Hannibal's Trail. (R) 9.00 Cash in China's Attic: A Culinary Show. Special. 10.00 QI. (R) 11.20 Newsnight. 11.00 The Review Show. 11.45 Weather. 11.50 Film: The Notorious Bette Page. (2005) Biographical drama, starring Gretchen Mol. 1.20 Bowls. 2.20 BBC News. 3.35 Close.

ITV1 6.00 Daybreak. 8.30 Lorraine. 9.25 The Jeremy Kyle Show. 10.30 This Morning. 12.30 Loose Women. 1.30 ITV News; Weather. 1.55 Regional News; Weather. 2.00 Dickinson's Real Deal. 3.00 The Alan Titchmarsh Show. 3.59 Regional Weather. 4.00 The Hungry Sailors. 5.00 The Chase. 6.00 Regional News; Weather. 6.30 ITV News; Weather. 7.00 Emmerdale. 7.30 Coronation Street. 8.00 Safari Vet School. 8.30 Coronation Street. 9.00 Law & Order: UK. 10.00 ITV News at Ten; Weather. 10.30 Regional News; Weather. 10.35 Film: Jewel. (1978) Thriller sequel, starring Roy Scheider. 12.45 The Zone; ITV News Headlines. 2.45 Film: Ray. (2004) Biopic, starring Jamie Foxx. 5.20 ITV Nightscreen. 5.30 ITV Morning News.

Channel 4 6.00 The Treacle People. (R) 6.10 The Hoobs. (R) 6.35 The Hoobs. (R) 7.00 Freshly Squeezed. 7.30 According to Jim. (R) 7.55 Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) 8.25 Frasier. (R) 8.55 Undercover Boss USA. (R) 9.55 Phil Spencer. Secret Agent. (R) 11.00 Secret Location. 12.00 Channel 4 News Summary. 12.05 A Place in the Sun: Home or Away. (R) 1.10 River Cottage Bites. 1.25 Film: Brighton Rock. (1947) Thriller, starring Richard Attenborough. 3.10 Countdown. 4.00 Deal or No Deal. 5.00 Celebrity Coach Trip. 5.30 Come Dine with Me. 6.00 The Simpsons. (R) 6.30 Hollyoaks. 7.00 Channel 4 News. 7.30 4thoughtv. 7.35 Come Dine with Me. (R) 8.30 New Girl. 9.00 The Million Pound Drop. 9.30 The Chimes Quiz Night. 11.20 Rude Tube. (R) 12.25 Film: Eternal Sunshine of the Spotless Mind. (2004) Romantic drama, starring Jim Carrey and Kate Winslet. 1.15 Random Acts. 2.20 Swimming. (R) 2.40 Meeting Helen. (R) 2.50 The Fishmonger. (R) 2.55 My Name Is Earl. (R) 3.20 Hung. (R) 4.25 St Elsewhere. (R) 5.10 Countdown. (R) 5.55 TBS.

Channel 5 6.00 Milkshake! 9.15 The Wright Stuff. 11.10 LIVE with Gabby. 12.10 5 News Lunchtime. 12.15 Celebrity Big Brother. (R) 1.15 Home and Away. 1.45 Neighbours. 2.15 CSI: Crime Scene Investigation. (R) 3.15 Film: Jane Doe: Ties That Bind. (2007) 5.00 5 News at 5. 5.30 Neighbours. (R) 6.00 Home and Away. (R) 6.30 5 News at 6.30. 7.00 Eddie Stobart: Trucks and Trailers. The drivers transport polo ponies. (R) 5 News Update. 8.00 World's Toughest Truckee. The drivers deliver riverboats to Alter do Chao in Brazil. 5 News Update. 9.00 Celebrity Big Brother: Live Final. 10.30 Celebrity Big Brother's Bit on the Side. 11.30 Comedy Kings: Best of Just for Laughs. 12.00 SuperCasino. 3.50 Motorsport Mundial. 4.15 Nick's Quest. (R) 5.10 Michaela's Wild Challenge. (R)

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Take in a top West End show and have some free time in London for shopping and sightseeing. For the Dine and Dance option see the matinee performance before heading back to the hotel for dinner and also (conditions apply). For the Saturday Night option you will see the evening performance. For both breaks the price includes a theatre ticket, overnight stay in a four-star outer London hotel, with full English breakfast (plus dinner for Dine and Dance options). Pick ups are from Dudley, Shrewsbury, Telford, Walsall and Wolverhampton.

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Departures most weekends
FROM £139.95

Catch the Theatre Express and enjoy a super two-day weekend break in the capital. There's a choice of London hotels and your ticket is for a Saturday evening performance. Rail travel is standard class with the option to upgrade. Depart Saturday morning/early afternoon from Birmingham New Street, Shrewsbury, Stafford or Wolverhampton, returning on the Sunday afternoon/early evening for plenty of free time for shopping and sightseeing. Stay the Friday evening too for an additional cost.

Self-drive breaks
Departures most weekends
FROM £99.95 (Friday Night)
FROM £109.95 (Saturday Night)

The self-drive break is for one evening staying either on the Friday night or Saturday night in a four-star hotel. You will see the evening performance: for Friday night you will have a top price ticket and for Saturday evening there is a choice of price bands. Stay extra nights for a reasonable supplement (subject to availability).

*The "from" price and price bands vary for each show — see brochure for details. Single room supplements apply.

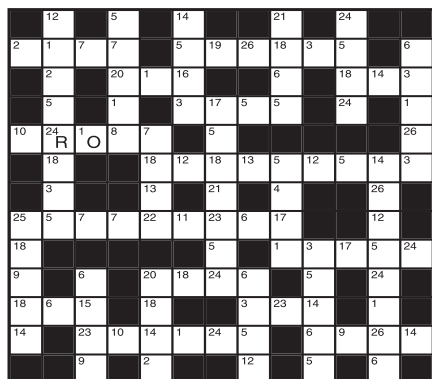
For a theatre brochure please call (01902) 319999 (Monday to Friday, 9am-5pm), email starextra@expressandstar.co.uk (please include your name and address) or go to expressandstar.com/starextratrail
Please read brochure/web page for full information plus terms and conditions

Brain Gym

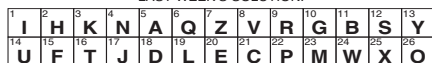
No.152

Codeword

Each number in the grid represents a different letter of the alphabet and every letter of the alphabet is used. Use the given letter(s) to the right of the main grid to start you off.



LAST WEEK'S SOLUTION:



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Double Crossword

Choose either quick or cryptic clues - both fit the same grid.

Cryptic Clues:

Across

1. Strict hand drafts a new order (4,3,4)
9. It's the least one can do (7)
10. Creed of a company in the red? Just the opposite (5)
11. Dependable form of alloy (5)
12. I turned badly, not yet having taken the test (7)
13. I am in pursuit in a carriage (6)
15. Fell, but kept quiet (3,3)
18. Overhead lines (7)
20. Money, enough for a puree, perhaps (5)
22. Part of the roof showing a blend of styles in part (5)
23. Smouldering anger (7)
24. Immediately erect a road (11)

Down

2. A negative in any trouble (5)
3. People with such depressions may still be happy (7)
4. Best sort of capital investment!! (6)
5. In fact a point of view (5)
6. No ordinary member of the force (7)
7. What a nursery may ask for looking after one! (5,6)
8. Highwayman intent on cleaning up? (11)
14. His life may be in the balance (7)
16. Possibly a tropic fruit (7)
17. Demanding, like royalty? (6)
19. Stadium near a ruin (5)
21. Animal comes from the pet-shop and accepts food (5)

Quick Clues:

Across

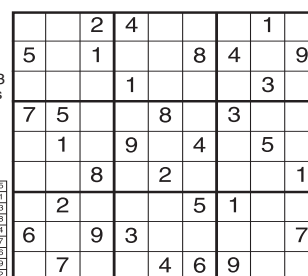
1. Calamity (11)
9. Delicate (7)
10. Freight (5)
11. Happening (5)
12. Bounty (7)
13. Maintain (6)
15. Talented (6)
18. Vacation (7)
20. Sweeten (5)
22. Confine (5)
23. Passage (7)
24. News (11)

Down

2. Diminish (5)
3. Flier (7)
4. Triple (6)
5. Happen (5)
6. Crop (7)
7. A short time later (5,1,5)
8. Thoughtful (11)
14. A wise man (7)
16. Moment (7)
17. Method (6)
19. The same (5)
21. Zest (5)

Sudoku

Fill in the grid below so that every column and every row and each of the 3 boxes contain all the digits from 1 to 9.

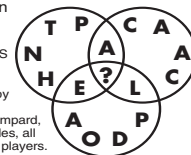


LAST WEEK'S

SOLUTIONS >									
9	1	3	6	8	2	7	4	5	
6	8	7	5	3	4	2	9	1	
2	5	4	9	1	7	6	8	3	
7	3	5	4	2	1	9	6	8	
8	6	2	3	7	9	1	5	4	
4	9	1	8	5	6	3	2	7	
3	2	9	1	4	5	8	7	6	
5	7	8	2	6	3	4	9	1	
1	4	6	7	9	8	5	3	2	

Circlegram

Replace the question mark with a letter so that the letters within each circle can be arranged to form words on a common theme. What are the three words, and the letter represented by the question mark?



LAST WEEK'S SOLUTION:
The letter represented by the question mark is L. Larissa Hilario, Meirelles, Chelsea F.C.

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HALESOWEN, HALESOWEN ROAD

A substantial detached property which has undergone complete refurbishment and requires internal inspection for it to be appreciated, briefly comprising of: Five Bedrooms, Master with En-Suite, Mirror Room, Reception Hall, Lounge, Dining Room, Kitchen with Main Appliances, Utility Room, Guest Cloakroom, Family Bathroom, Double Electric Garage, Ample Parking and Mature Gardens. Popular Location.

£1300 PCM



OLDBURY, WYVERN CLOSE

Set in a very quiet cul-de-sac is this modern unfurnished detached home, briefly comprising of Four Bedrooms, Master with En-Suite, Spacious Lounge, Separate Dining Room, Fitted Kitchen with White Goods, Double Glazing, Gas Central Heating, Driveway and Garage Parking, Front Rear Gardens

£850 PCM



HALESOWEN, MAYFIELD ROAD

A rare opportunity to rent this lovely fully furnished macklow style semi-detached house with outside heated swimming pool (38-40 deep) empty during winter months. Situated in the popular area of Halesowen comprises of: Three Bedrooms, Two Reception Rooms, Lovely Fitted Kitchen, Family Bathroom with Shower, Gas Central Heating, Double Glazing, Driveway Parking, Garage. 12 MONTH LET ONLY.

£795 PCM



ROWLEY REGIS, SIDAWAY CLOSE

A much improved and extended detached house, set in a cul-de-sac location, comprises of: Three Bedrooms, Refitted Dining Kitchen, Modern Lounge, Separate Dining Area, Master with En-Suite, Refitted Bathroom, Driveway Parking for 5+ Cars, Rear Garden

£750 PCM



OLDBURY, WOODFIELD AVENUE

Been tastefully refurbished and beautifully presented is this semi detached house, briefly comprising of: Two Reception Rooms, Fitted Kitchen, Three Bedrooms, Bathroom with Shower, Driveway Parking, Rear Garden, Double Glazing, Gas Central Heating, Unfurnished

£595 PCM



HALESOWEN, MANSELL CLOSE

A beautifully presented semi detached family home briefly comprising of: Three Bedrooms with the Main Bedroom Having Fitted Wardrobes, Spacious Living Room, Modern Dining Kitchen, Gas Central Heating, Double Glazing, House Bathroom with Shower, Gardens and 2 Allocated Parking Spaces.

£595 PCM



MERRY HILL, MADISON AVENUE

An Unfurnished modern three storey townhouse within walking distance to Merry Hill, briefly comprising of: Fitted Kitchen, Downstairs wc, Three Bedrooms, Master En Suite, Lounge and Dining Room/Study, Allocated Parking Space

£595 PCM



HALESOWEN, HOPE STREET

A superbly presented unfurnished first floor apartment. Situated in a Cul-de-sac location and been fully refurbished, briefly comprises of: Two Bedrooms, Lounge, Fantastic Fitted Kitchen, Gas Central Heating, Double Glazing, Lovely Modern Bathroom With Shower, On Road Parking space. Viewing Recommended.

£550 PCM



NETHERTON, PAINT CUP ROW

A refurbished two bedroom detached set in a cul-de-sac location, briefly comprising of: Fitted Kitchen, Lounge, Two Bedrooms, Downstairs Bathroom, Gas Central Heating and Enclosed Garden. Viewing Essential

£550 PCM



HALESOWEN, MAPLE ROAD

Located in the centre of Blackheath, is this lovely and spacious unfurnished three bed mid terrace, briefly comprising of: Gas Central Heating, Double Glazing, Two Reception Rooms, Cottage Style Kitchen, Cellar, Downstairs Bathroom with Shower, On Road Parking, Rear Garden

£550 PCM



HALESOWEN, BETHESDA GARDENS

Located on this new build estate is this modern ground floor apartment, coming unfurnished, briefly comprising of: Two Bedrooms, Modern Bathroom with Shower, Master with En-Suite, Fitted Kitchen with White Goods, Open Plan Spacious Lounge, Gas Central Heating, Double Glazing, Allocated Parking. A Must View Property

£550 PCM



HALESOWEN, CHATSWORTH ROAD

Located on this desirable estate in Halesowen, is this unfurnished semi detached house briefly comprising: Two Reception Rooms, Fitted Kitchen, Three Bedrooms, En-Suite to Master Bedroom, Bathroom, Gas Central Heating, Double Glazing, Parking Space for Two Cars, Front and Rear Gardens, Great Views From Rear

£550 PCM



CRADLEY HEATH, MEADOW WALK

Being recently redecorated and on a quiet road, is this unfurnished semi detached house, comprising of: Three Bedrooms, Modern Fitted Kitchen, Spacious Lounge, Double Glazing, Gas Central Heating, Modern Downstairs Bathroom, Rear Garden, Driveway Parking.

£499 PCM



DUDLEY, SOUTHGATE WAY

A Modern spacious well presented unfurnished semi detached house, briefly comprising of: Gas Central Heating, Double Glazing, Living Room, Two Double Bedrooms, Bathroom with Shower, Garage and Off Road Parking. Viewing Highly Recommended.

£485 PCM



ROWLEY REGIS, POWKE LANE

A Part furnished apartment close to local amenities, briefly comprising of: Electric Storage Heating, Spacious Living Room, Fitted Dining Kitchen, Double Bedroom, Bathroom with Shower, Parking

£475 PCM



HALESOWEN, COOMBS ROAD

Offering excellent value for money, this inclusive refurbished one bedroom first floor flat is available immediately. Briefly comprising of: Hallway, Lounge, Single Bedroom, Bathroom and Kitchen. Gas Central Heating. Rent Includes Utility Bills and Council Tax.

£470 PCM



CEDAR MEWS, FERGUSON DRIVE

A lovely unfurnished modern second floor apartment, briefly comprising of: Two Bedrooms, Fitted Kitchen, Spacious Lounge, Bathroom with Shower, Two Allocated Parking Spaces, Internal Viewing Recommended

£450 PCM



DUDLEY, PRIORY ROAD

A fantastic value for money two bedroom flat above a shop. Briefly comprising of: Spacious Lounge, Two Large Bedrooms, Newly Fitted Carpets Throughout, Gas Central Heating, Double Glazed, Close to Dudley College and Town Centre. Viewing Essential. Available Immediately.

£450 PCM



CRADLEY HEATH, UNITT DRIVE

Come on the market in this popular located apartment, close to Old Hill and local train station, is this unfurnished second floor apartment, briefly comprising of: Gas Central Heating, Living Room, Fitted Kitchen, Two Bedrooms, Bathroom with Shower, Allocated Parking Space

£450 PCM



DUDLEY, BEAN ROAD

A refurbished ground floor flat within easy reach of the town centre, briefly comprising of: Reception Hall with Minton Floor, Lounge, Double Bedroom, Fitted Kitchen, Shower Room, Double Glazing, and Communal Parking, Unfurnished

£380 PCM



HALESOWEN, APPERLEY WAY

An Unfurnished ground floor flat on a popular development, briefly comprising of: Double Bedroom, Fitted Kitchen (OWN COOKER TO BE SUPPLIED), Bathroom with Shower, Lounge, Electric Storage Heating, Parking, Communal gardens

£350 PCM



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SUZUKI'S latest Special Edition Grand Vitara model, SZ-T, which goes on sale this week.

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The SZ-T model is available for £22,315 including metallic paint and has a comprehensive list of standard equipment including new design front grille, new design 18-inch alloy wheels, unique contrasting seat fabric, Silver coloured roof rails and bonnet side vents, built in turn signal lamps for the door mirrors and, for this

Special Edition, a tailgate mounted spare wheel. Cruise Control and keyless entry and start are also included.

The Euro 5 emissions 1.9-litre DDiS engine has a power output of 129PS with torque of 300Nm from just 2,000rpm offering strong flexibility when overtaking or driving off road.

Emissions

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SZ-T is available in five metallic colours: Quasar Grey, Silky Silver, Blueish Black Pearl, Phoenix Red Pearl and Nocturne Blue Pearl.

For further information about the full Suzuki product range visit www.suzuki4.co.uk



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TO LET

LYTTLETON AVENUE, HALESOWEN
£530 pcm

A well presented 3 bedroomed Semi Detached in a sort after location. The property briefly comprises of: Fitted Kitchen, Double Reception room: Bathroom with shower, Large rear Gardens and off road parking. Close to local amenities and schools. Viewing Essential

REDUCED

ASHWOOD CLOSE, OLDBURY
£104,000

A modern and spacious 2 double bedroom apartment, occupying the whole of the top floor of the block. This property benefits from good size bedrooms, dressing room to master bedroom, uPVC double glazing, electric heating, secure intercom building entry, modern fitted kitchen and bathroom suite, access to loft and therefore extra storage and all allocated parking space. This property will appeal to first time buyers.

TO LET

NEWLY REFURBISHED FLAT
£525 pcm

A very deceptive 3 bedroom flat in a prime location of Lye. The property has recently been refurbished throughout, including a new kitchen and bathroom. Viewing highly recommended. The property close to all local amenities and bus routes.

LET

APPERLEY WAY, HALESOWEN
£395 pcm

A well presented 1 Bedroom ground floor flat in a sort after area of Halesowen. The property comprises of lounge, kitchen, double bedroom and bathroom with shower. Communal gardens and driveway. The property is located near local bus routes and within walking distance to cradley road train station

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Clent Hill Drive, Rowley Regis



A four bedroom semi detached property comprising of lounge, kitchen, utility room and wc, first floor bathroom, driveway, front and rear gardens, double glazing and central heating.

£160,000

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Apperley Way, Halesowen



Offers Over £40,000

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Hollydale Road, Rowley Regis



Offers Over £95,000

A two bedroom end terrace property comprising kitchen, lounge, bathroom, driveway, garage, rear garden, double glazing and central heating. No upward chain.

Regis Road

Land for Sale adjacent to 5 Regis Road, Rowley Regis. Outline planning for erection of new detached dwelling, planning ref. DC/10/52122. All enquiries 0121 427 5128

Highfield Road, Halesowen



£110,000

A three bedroom semi detached property comprising lounge, kitchen, shower room, front and rear gardens, garage, central heating and double glazing.

WANTED

A three bedroom semi detached in the Howley Grange area.

WANTED

A three bed semi detached or detached property near to Lutley School.

Arkle Croft, Rowley Regis



A detached family home with accommodation comprising lounge, dining room, breakfast kitchen, four bedrooms, en-suite and bathroom. Garage, driveway, front and rear gardens.

£200,000

Petford Street, Cradley Heath



£110,000

A three bedroom property comprising lounge, kitchen/diner, bathroom, rear garden, parking and garage. Central heating & double glazing.

Chatsworth Road, Halesowen



£135,000

A three bedroom semi detached property comprising lounge, kitchen and bathroom, garage and rear garden. No upward chain.

WANTED

A two/three bedroom house in the Timbertree area.

Thinking of selling?

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Oldbury Road, Rowley Regis



£185,000 **NEW PRICE**

A four bedroom detached bungalow comprising kitchen, lounge, conservatory, bathroom, driveway, parking and garage. No upward chain.

Firth Park Crescent, Halesowen



£200,000

A three bedroom detached property comprising lounge/diner, breakfast kitchen and bathroom. Garage, driveway, front and rear gardens, central heating and double glazing.

WANTED

A three bedroom semi detached property in the Hurst Green area.

Olive Hill Road, Halesowen



£200,000

A detached property comprising two reception rooms, kitchen, three bedrooms, bathroom, garage and rear garden. Central heating and double glazing.

Astley Crescent, Halesowen



£210,000 **NEW PRICE**

A semi detached property comprising lounge diner, kitchen, dining room, utility room. Four bedrooms, bathroom and en-suite, driveway and rear garden. No upward chain.

WANTED

A two bedroom property with a garage in the Blackheath area.



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HALESOWEN Raddens Road * Extended semi detached * Four bedrooms * Through living room * Kitchen/breakfast room * Refitted shower room * Good size of garden Offers in the region of £269,950	CRADLEY HEATH High Haden Crescent * Extended detached house * three good sized bedrooms * two garages * in need of general modernisation and improvement * full of potential * good sized rear garden Offers in the region of £249,950	OLDBURY Forest Road * Spacious traditional semi * Four bedrooms * Two reception rooms * Kitchen/breakfast room * Pleasant gardens * Viewing recommended Offers in the region of £199,950	HALESOWEN Woodbury Road * Spacious link detached * Three bedrooms * Close to Hagley Road West * Through living room * Kitchen * Cloakroom * Utility * Pleasant gardens Offers in the region of £179,950	OLDBURY Wilson Road * Traditional style semi detached * Three bedrooms * Two reception rooms * Extensive rear garden * Requires general modernisation * Close to Warley Woods Offers in the region of £175,000	HALESOWEN Newlands Drive * Traditional extended semi * Four bedrooms * Bathroom & dressing room * Kitchen * Breakfast room * Through living room * Great potential Offers in the region of £169,950	QUINTON Ridgacre Road * Much improved semi * Three beds * Refitted kitchen & utility * Through lounge * Side garage * Viewing recommended £169,950
OLDBURY Walters Road * Traditional style semi * Three bedrooms * Open plan kitchen/dining room * Conservatory * Garage to rear * Must be viewed £165,000	DUDLEY Dudley Wood Pavillion Gardens * Modern semi detached house * cul-de-sac location * side garage * two bedrooms * kitchen/breakfast room * good sized landscaped garden Offers in the region of £114,950	OLDBURY St James Road * Semi detached bungalow * Two bedrooms * Lounge * Kitchen * Bathroom * Off road parking * General improvement required * Great potential Offers in the region of £90,000	HALESOWEN Victoria Court Binswood Road * Ground floor flat * Two bedrooms * Living room * Kitchen * Refitted shower room * Communal gardens Offers in the region of £89,950	HALESOWEN Leaffield Gardens * First floor maisonette * Three bedrooms * Living room * Kitchen * Garden area * Garage * Short lease hence suitable for cash buyers only Offers in the region of £69,960	STOURBRIDGE Queens Road * Modern town house * 50% shared ownership * three bedrooms * downstairs vc * off road parking to rear * good sized rear garden £64,975	BIRMINGHAM Quinton Land For Sale Land On Site Of 11 Highfield Lane An opportunity to acquire a residential development site with planning approval for two three bedroom detached houses situated on a prominent corner position with St Davids Drive and Highfield Lane Offers in the region of £135,000

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WOODBURY CLOSE, HURST GREEN NEW PRICE Detached home in pleasant cul-de-sac Kitchen with separate breakfast room Lounge/diner overlooking rear garden 3 bedrooms & family bathroom GCH & majority double glazing Integral garage & driveway £169,950 Ref: D903	GRAFTON ROAD, OLDBURY NEW PRICE 3 bed home with driveway & garage Kitchen with built in appliances 2 reception rms & conservatory/breakfast rm UPVC double glazing & GCH Well proportioned enclosed rear garden £149,950 Ref: D999	APPLETON AVENUE, GREAT BARR NEW PRICE Semi detached home with rear garden In need of updating & improvement in part Open plan ground floor accommodation Living/dining area, kitchen & 3 bedrooms Part UPVC double glazing & GCH No upward chain - vacant possession £135,000 Ref: D1134	WOODNORTON ROAD, ROWLEY REGIS NEW PRICE Three bed extended semi-det home 25ft lounge/diner leading to conservatory Extended 17ft kitchen to rear Block paved driveway to front - workshop to rear UPVC double glazing & gas central heating Off road parking for several vehicles £119,950 Ref: D1056	TAME ROAD, OLDBURY NEW PRICE End terraced home close to shops 21ft lounge/diner & 11ft fitted kitchen 3 bedrooms & bathroom UPVC double glazing and gas central heating Lawned gardens to front & rear No upward chain - vacant possession £109,950 Ref: D1141	TITFORD ROAD, OLDBURY NEW PRICE Spacious cottage style semi Lounge & sitting room Open plan Kitchen / dining room Downstairs bathroom 3 good sized bedrooms Off road parking & detached garage Majorly UPVC DBG & fitted with GCH £109,950 Ref: D949
BRAMCOTE ROAD, QUINTON NEW PRICE Semi det home with 3 good sized bedrooms 14ft lounge to front with fireplace 20ft dining kitchen, rear veranda & ds WC 3 bedrooms & family bathroom on first floor UPVC double glazing & gas central heating No upward chain - vacant possession £99,950 Ref: D1110	NEW ENGLAND, HALESOWEN NEW PRICE Well presented first floor maisonette Lounge & fitted kitchen Double bedroom & bathroom Allocated parking & communal gardens Double glazing & economy 7 heating No upward chain £59,950 Ref: D1078	CARTERS LANE, LAPAL Detached double fronted home on corner plot 3/4 bedrooms & family bathroom 3 reception rooms, kitchen, utility, DWG Attached garage & extensive driveway to front Predominantly UPVC double glazed & gas c/h Scope for extending to side £299,950 Ref: D1131	BOWLING GREEN DRIVE, SMETHWICK Modern 3 bed link detached family home Superbly presented throughout Lounge, impressive dining kitchen and DWG Master bedroom with ensuite facility Two further bedrooms and family bathroom UPVC DBG, GCH, gardens & garage £194,950 Ref: D1137	SHRUBLANDS, OLDBURY Traditionally style 3 bed semi in cul-de-sac 15ft 10 lounge & kitchen diner to rear Three bedrooms & family bathroom UPVC double glazing & gas central heating Off road parking to front Large gardens to rear £120,000 Ref: D1109	BARSTON ROAD, OLDBURY Extended semi detached home in popular area 17ft 8 lounge & 12ft 6 dining room Extended refitted kitchen Three bedrooms & refitted bathroom Off road parking & enclosed rear garden Vacant possession - no upward chain £139,950 Ref: D1125

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55	CHEVROLET LACETTI SX 1.6cc Met Silver, Alloys, PAS, EW, AC.....	£2299
55	VAUXHALL VECTRA LIFE CDTi 120bhp Met Grey, Diesel, Alloys, PAS, EW, EM.....	£3499
03	MGTF Met Grey, Alloys, PAS, EW, EM, CD	£2699
07	FIAT PUNTO ACTIVE 1.2cc Met Blue, Alloys, PS, EW, EM, CD	£3699
06	CHEVROLET TACUMA CDX 2.0cc PLUS Auto. Met Silver, Alloys, PAS, EW	£2699
55	RENAULT CLIO DYNAMIQUE 1.2cc 16v 3-dr. Met Silver, Alloys, PAS, EW, EM	£2999
55	RENAULT MEGANE EXPRESSION VVT 1.6cc 16v Met Grey, PAS, EW, EM, AC, CD	£2999
52	VAUXHALL CORSA CLUB 12v 1.0cc 3-dr. Met Silver, EW, PAS, CD Player	£2299
53	RENAULT SCENIC AUTHENTIQUE 16v 1.4cc Met Green, PAS, EW, EM	£2499
55	VAUXHALL ASTRA LIFE TWINPORT 1.6cc Met Grey, PAS, EW, EM, AC, CD	£2699
05	RENAULT LAGUNA DYNAMIQUE DCi 1.9cc 120bhp Met Blue, Alloys, PAS, EW, EM..	£2699
04	VAUXHALL ASTRA SXi TWINPORT 1.6cc Met Grey, Alloys, PAS, EW, DM, AC	£3799
04	JAGUAR X TYPE V6 2.5cc Auto AWD. Met Green, Alloys, PAS, EW, EM, AC	£3299
02	BMW 318 TISE COMPACT 2.0cc Met Silver, Alloys, PAS, EW, EM, AC	£2999
05	VAUXHALL VECTRA LS 16v 1.8cc Met Gold, PAS, EW, EM, CD	£2499
55	FORD MONDEO 2.0 TDCi LX Met Silver, PAS, EW, EM, AC	£2999

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FIAT STILO 1.6 ACTIVE SPORT 05 Reg, 3-dr, Blue Metallic, AC, Alloys, 31k, SH	£2495	2007/56 Reg, 5-dr, Silver, AC, Alloys, 52k, FSH £5995
CHEVROLET LACETTI 1.6 SX Auto, 06 Reg, 5-dr, Silver, AC, 51k, SH	£2695	RENAULT LAGUNA 1.5 DCi DYNAMIQUE 58 Reg, 5-dr, Black, Half Leather, Sat Nav, 37k, FSH £6995
JAGUAR X TYPE 2.5 V6 AWD, 53 Reg, Black, AC, alloys, 58k, FSH	SOLD	07 Reg, 3-dr, Blue, Black Leather, AC, Alloys, 35k, FSH £5995
RENAULT CLIO 1.4 EXPRESSION 05 Reg, 5-dr, Automatic, Blue, 58k, FSH	£3295	VAUXHALL ZAFIRA 1.6 EXCLUSIV 58 Reg, 5-dr, Grey Metallic, AC, 27k, FSH £5795
PEUGEOT 206 SW 1.4S 54 Reg, 5-dr, Silver, AC, 47k, FSH	£3495	
RENAULT MEGANE 1.4 RUSH 05 Reg, 3-dr, Silver, AC, Alloys, 45k, FSH	£3495	
MERCEDES A170 CDI AVANTGARDE 53 Reg, 5-dr, Silver, AC, alloys, half leather, 65k, SH	£3695	
RENAULT MEGANE 1.6 MAXIM 06 Reg, 5-dr, Gold, AC, alloys, 44k, FSH	£3795	
PEUGEOT 407 2.0 HDi EXECUTIVE, 55 Reg, 4-dr, Black, AC, Alloys, Leather, Sat Nav, 71k, FSH	£4295	
JAGUAR X TYPE 2.0 CLASSIC Diesel, 53 Reg, 4-dr, Ice Blue Metallic, AC, Alloys, 54k, FSH	£4495	
RENAULT MEGANE 1.6 DYNAMIQUE 57 Reg, 5-dr, Grey Metallic, Air Con, Alloys, 21k, FSH	£4995	
PEUGEOT 407 2.0 HDi SW X-LINE 06/55 Reg, 5-dr, Silver, AC, Alloys, Sat Nav, 62k, FSH	£4995	
RENAULT MEGANE 1.5 DCi EXPRESSION Estate, 57 Reg, 5-dr, Gold, AC, 36k, FSH, 1 owner	SOLD	
PEUGEOT 308 1.6 SPORT 57 Reg, 5-dr, Black, AC, Alloys, FSH	£5795	
MERCEDES A150 CLASSIC SE 2007/56 Reg, 5-dr, Silver, AC, Alloys, 52k, FSH	£5795	
CITROEN C4 1.6 HDi VTR+, 08 Reg, 5-dr, Blue Metallic, AC, Alloys, 57k, FSH	£5795	
PEUGEOT 207 1.4 CIELLO 08 Reg, 5-dr, Blue Metallic, AC, Alloys, Glass Roof, 23k, FSH	£5995	
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VAUXHALL ASTRA 1.6 TWINPORT 07 Reg, Beige Metallic, AC, Alloys, 63k, FSH	£5995
FORD FIESTA 2.0 ST 07 Reg, 3-dr, Blue, Black Leather, AC, Alloys, 35k, FSH	£5995
MINI ONE CONVERTIBLE 1.6 (57) Reg 3-dr, Black, Alloys, 58k, FSH	£7295
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RENAULT GRAND SCENIC 1.6 DYNAMIQUE, 55 Reg, 5-dr, 7 seats, Silver, AC, Alloys, 50k, FSH	£3495
VAUXHALL ZAFIRA 1.6 EXCLUSIV 58 Reg, 5-dr, Panacotta, Air Con, 31k, FSH, 1 Owner	£5495
PEUGEOT 807 2.0 SE 07 Reg, 5-dr, Grey Metallic, AC, alloys, 7 seats, 44k, FSH	£5495
VAUXHALL ZAFIRA 1.6 LIFE 58 Reg, 5-dr, Grey Metallic, AC, 20k, FSH, 1 Owner	£5795
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Halesowen Audi weekend adds to A1 appeal

Halesowen Audi is giving motorists the perfect opportunity to discover why the A1 is such a "top marque" at a special event this weekend, which will be devoted to the award-winning premium hatchback.

From Friday 20th to Sunday 22nd January, the Manor Lane Centre will be hosting an exciting A1 weekend which will present visitors with some exclusive opportunities to acquire the acclaimed model and be amongst the first to order the A1 Sportback, the five-door version that will be launched later this spring.

Recently crowned "Supermini of the Year" for the second year in a row by What Car? magazine, the event will provide guests with the perfect chance to discover more about the A's winning attributes, which include its enhanced affordability.

To celebrate the success of the model, which is available from just £13,420 on-the-road, Halesowen Audi will be offering a deposit contribution of £750 to anyone purchasing a three-door A1 during the weekend. And customers won't have too long to begin their A1 ownership experience as the Centre has stock available for immediate delivery so they could be behind-the-wheel within hours!

With its official unveiling still a couple of months away, the A1 Sportback won't be present at the event but visitors will still be able to find out all they need to know about the eagerly-awaited car and pre-order. Members of Halesowen Audi's sales team will be on hand to discuss its impressive specification in detail and talk through the array of affordable finance packages that will be available on the model, which adds a five-door option to the range.

With seating for five, the A1 Sportback is 6mm taller and 6mm wider than its sister version and offers slightly more head and shoulder room. It will be launched at a starting price of £13,980 - a modest £560 premium over the three-door - and will offer four engine choices, including the 1.6 TDI diesel that champions efficiency by offering 74.3mpg and 99g/km CO2.

The A1 Sportback can be specified in SE, Sport and S line levels of trim, all of which feature alloy wheels, remote central locking, air conditioning, electric windows and mirrors, split folding rear seat and a six-speaker single CD Concert audio system linked to a 6.5-inch retractable display.



"The A1 has been a phenomenal success, attracting a real mix of drivers and I'm sure our £750 deposit contribution offer will increase its appeal," explained Ian Fotheringham, Halesowen Audi's Sales Manager. "The imminent arrival of the A1 Sportback has been generating massive interest amongst customers requiring a compact family car, who can pre-order now to ensure delivery when the model is officially launched."

To find out more about
Halesowen Audi's A1 Weekend
 please call
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The new Audi A1. Available from £15,670.



The Audi A1 is a compact car with class leading technology and exceptional looks. This premium hatchback combines superb build quality, luxury and advanced technology. This highly appealing vehicle offers chic sporty looks and a classy interior. Proof that good things come in small packages.

Solutions Representative example from Audi Finance based on 10,000 miles per annum[†] for Audi A1 1.4 TFSI Sport 122PS Manual. 5 years or 50,000 miles Free Servicing available for A1 3 Door[^]:

Duration	2 years
23 monthly payments of	£199.00
Customer deposit	£2,613.26
Centre deposit contribution	£750.00
Recommended on-the-road price	£15,670.00
Amount of credit	£12,306.74
Optional final payment	£9,327.10

Total amount payable	£17,327.36
Total amount payable by customer	£16,577.36
Acceptance fee*	£125.00
Option to purchase fee**	£60.00
Rate of interest	7%
Representative APR	7.9% APR

Halesowen Audi

Manor Lane, Halesowen, West Midlands B62 8RD Tel: 0121 504 0000 www.halesowen.audi.co.uk

Fuel economy figures for the Audi A1 Range: Urban 37.7 - 64.2mpg (7.5 - 4.4 l/100km) Extra Urban 55.4 - 83.1 mpg (5.1 - 3.4 l/100km) Combined 47.9 - 74.3mpg (5.9 - 3.8 l/100km) CO₂ emissions 139 - 99 g/km.

Retail sales only: *Payable within first payment. **Payable with optional final payment. †\$5.76p per mile excess mileage charges apply. Further charges may be payable if vehicle is returned. Indemnities may be required. Subject to status. Available to over 18s from participating Audi Centres only (subject to availability) for vehicles ordered before 31st March 2012 and delivered by 30th June 2012. The quoted ROTR prices and finance examples shown reflect the current rate of 20% VAT. Offers may be varied or withdrawn at any time. ‡Servicing activity is based on the manufacturers recommended Longlife Service schedule. Up to 5 years or 50,000 miles whichever comes soonest. Free Audi Service Plan is available for the A1 3 door to all retail customers and is not dependant on the customer taking out Audi Finance. Terms, conditions and exclusions apply. For more information visit Audi.co.uk or speak to your Audi Centre. Audi Finance, Freepost Audi Finance.

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*Not available on Expression. ES, ES Tech models. **Finance Deposit Allowance not available on Astra GTC. Model shown is New Astra SRi 5dr. Finance provided by Vauxhall Finance, a trading style of GMAC UK plc, PO Box 6666, Cardiff, CF15 7YT. Finance is subject to status, terms and conditions. Applicants must be 18 years or over. Offer applies to private individuals, Vauxhall Partners and small businesses 1-24 (purchase only excluding B2B). All other customers are excluded. Offer available on orders or registrations between 01.01.12 and 31.01.12. †Vauxhall Lifetime Warranty covers lifetime ownership of first registered keeper, 100,000 mile limit. Terms and conditions apply. Savings shown are against list price at time of publication, for details refer to Vauxhall's current price guide. Price points are available on retailer stock vehicles only. *Customer deposit shown after deduction of Vauxhall contribution.

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LOST—Female silver tortie tabby indoor cat, Bromley, Kingswinford, new to area. Reward for safe return. 07956 438207.

LOST—Gent's gold wedding ring, at Bentley Bridge Swimming Pool, Sunday, January 8, between 12pm. 07956 652579.

LOST—Kitten, tortoiseshell, 4 months old from Kingsway area, Wolverhampton. Contact 07702 525500.

personal

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BLACK MALE, 32 enjoys art, reading, swimming, loves to watch movies, outings, would like to meet genuine female, 25 - 38, who is loving and kind, who enjoys sightseeing, cosy nights in, for friendship/relationship. Box Number P17544, Express and Star, Queen Street, Wolverhampton, WV1 1ES.

FURIAL PLOT for sale, Penn Cemetery, Penn Road, Wolverhampton. For details contact 07976 880069.

COLLINS Charles Collins is looking for Relatives of Joseph Sturcho Collins and his son Joseph Richard Collins (both deceased), last known living in the Stourbridge/Brierley Hill area.

Anyone with any information please contact:
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Whilst Midlands News Association publications take great care to avoid publication of advertisements from Puppy Farmers we cannot accept any liability should readers purchase from this kind of establishment.

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AUDI A3 1.9 TDI Sportback. 05 reg, red, 5dr, tax, MOT, service history, lady owner, £4,800 ono. 07857 103251/07896 240177.

BMW 320 DIESEL SE Facelift model, 2003, saloon, tax/MOT, full excellent condition, £3,095. 07811 555535 / 01630 652127.

CITROEN C2 VTR 1.6. 53 plate, silver, tax April, MOT Dec, FS11, mint condition, £1,799. 07999 455460. Briener Hill.

CITROEN C5 SX 1.4. Grey, 06 reg, 57k, full MOT, just serviced, excellent condition. £3,200 ono. 01902 424942.

FORD CMAX 1.8 Zetec 2008. 25k miles, blue, fsh, MOT, c, tax, alloys, tinted windows, blinds, electric, CD player, excellent, £5,550 ono. 07747 445247.

HONDA HRV 1.6. 2002, 84k miles, silver, electric windows, air-con, MOT, Tax, Petrol, £2,500 o.n.o. 07747 445130.

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PEUGEOT 307 Rapier. 1600, Gold, new tyres, Tax August, MOT September, £1,995. Albrighton area. 07817 585103.

RENAULT MEGANE Privilege 1.6, 5dr, hatch, 2005, beige, abs, e/w, a/c, e/b, m, a/c. MOT Apr met, paid, c/l, pas, twin s/c, multi-changer, leather interior, top of the range car, £2,795. 07535 171574 or 01743 885302.

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53 reg, low mileage, blue met, pas, new MOT, tax, c/l, abs, sh, £2,295. 01384 279898.

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FIAT PUNTO X Reg.

2dr, MoT November, tax June, £895 ono. 01902 620681.

FIAT SEICENTO SX.

1999, T reg, 75,000 miles, tax and MOT, nice condition, good runner, recent service, c/w, s/r, new brakes, tyres, £695 ono. 07956 512215.

FORD MONDEO 1.8 Zetec.

blue, 12 months MOT, c/l, e/w, air conditioning, very clean, £1,295 ono. 07970 329496.

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07973 823945 / 01922 492278.

For Sale

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FORD KA COLLECTION 2000.

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MAZDA MX6 CONVERTIBLE

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1996, 54,000 miles, MOT, new battery, alloy wheels, alloys, silver £1,485. 07885 242754.

MG ZTP 2.5 190

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NISSAN PRIMASTER 2001/51.

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RENAULT Clio 2000 reg.

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RENAULT SCENIC 1.9.

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VAUXHALL ASTRA 1.7 Diesel

Estate, 5dr, S Reg, 1999, met green, 153K, MOT March, tax Feb, £600 ono. 07889 075326.

VAUXHALL ASTRA 2.0 SRI

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VAUXHALL ASTRA CL 1905.

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VAUXHALL ASTRA SXI 1.6.

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VAUXHALL CORSA B 1.2.

16v, V reg, tax, MOT, service history, all electric, excellent condition, £950 ono. 07527 198438.

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FORD ESCORT VAN.

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FORD TRANSIT Diesel Van SWB.

V reg, MOT June, Immaculate, no rust, £11,000. 07884 192832.

NISSAN PRIMASTER 1.9 Diesel.

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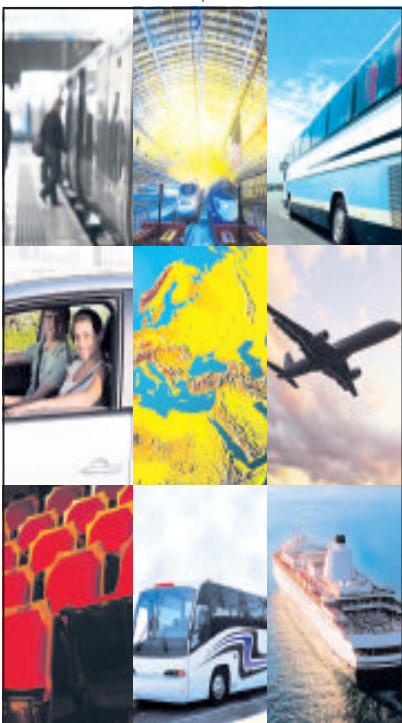
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SPORT

thechronicle

Hawks in hunt for under-10 girl teams

HALAS Hawks Junior Girls FC are on the lookout for new players.

Coaching sessions are planned soon for girls in primary school years three and four in preparation for forming U10s teams to play in the Stourbridge and District Girls League.

The sessions will be held at Windsor High School, Halesowen, from 10am to 11am on Sundays, led by qualified female coaches.

Halas Hawks currently have seven girls' teams and one open age ladies team.

The club is also looking for boys and girls in year one to join the U6 programme. Contact club secretary, Bob Hickman on 01384 657912 for further details.

Boys League
Halas Hawks 5
Forest Falcons 0

Halas Hawks U14s effectively sealed their win with three first-half goals from Liam Holmes, Jack Guest and Jack Bagley.

The second half saw Halas increase the lead with goals from Josh Mason and Adam Higginson.

Halas Hawks 2
Dudley Sports 1

The U16s had a well earned win against strong opposition. They were a goal down at half-time, but a determined second-half performance saw Joe Prosser score from the spot before putting Lee Mills through for the winner three minutes from time.

Halas Hawks 1
Newfield Harriers 1

Halas U17 took the lead through Kieran Hillsdon, but immediately let Newfield equalise through a defensive error. Missed chances for both sides saw the game finish as a draw.

Greenwood signs for the Heathens

DUDLEY Heathens have completed their 2012 speedway line-up with the signing of Dan Greenwood.

The rider quit the sport for personal reasons in 2007 but returned last September to take part in some meetings for Newport.

Greenwood, who will ride at reserve, makes his debut on April 3 at Monmore when the Heathens tackle Stoke.

Matches off

FROZEN pitches meant that all Old Halesonians hockey club games were postponed on Saturday.

Ball moves step closer to crack at title

by Craig Birch

COSELEY boxer Jamie Ball has been lined up for an English title eliminator on West Midlands soil against Birmingham's Nasser Al Harbi.

Promoter Dave Coldwell has won the light middleweights could clash in Birmingham.

A Coldwell bill at the New Bingley Hall is scheduled for March 16 and the bout could be named chief support.

Ball and Al Harbi will put the zero in their losses column on the line when the undefeated duo meet, with a new English champion set to be crowned later this month.

Erick Ochiong and Nick Quigley will go toe-to-toe for the vacant title next week, with the victor to meet the Ball v Al Harbi winner.

That's what the British Boxing Board of Control has decided and Ball, the reigning Midlands champion, believe it's his only way in. He said: "It will be tough, he's an unbeaten fighter like me and we have come across a lot of the same competition so far.

"At this stage, I have got to progress and I will, once I have got this on my slate, so I have got to take this fight."

"I have no other options, this is my only foot on the title ladder. I have got to play with the cards I have been dealt."

It's been a rollercoaster month for Ball after he was lined up for a shock crack at new British champion Brian Rose.

Rose and promoter Frank Maloney agreed to a voluntary defence – but the board and Sky Sports vetoed the proposed bout. Ball had already turned down a proposed English title fight with Birmingham's

Max Maxwell to hold out for Rose. Maxwell has now been picked to face Rose, who he knocked out last year, and Ball knows which one he would rather face.

He said: "In my eyes, Max would have been a harder fight than Rose, he's someone who has never got to where he should have."

"He knocked Rose out, yet Rose comes back to win the English and British titles, that's the madness of boxing."

"My fight with Max fell apart because the board ordered me to have an eliminator," said Ball. "I am just not getting the opportunities," he added.

Truman's chance to take on champ

ASTON'S Chris Truman has been handed a shot at Midlands light welterweight champion Dave Ryan at the end of March.

The two will collide at the top of the bill for the area title at Meadowside Leisure Centre, Burton, on March 31.

It's a first title shot for "the Trumanator" after 10 pro outings and represents a permanent shift up a weight class to light welter.

Ryan is the favourite but Truman could be underestimated, due to a 5ft 5in stature which the 27-year-old insists belies his strength.

A display of punching power led to his first stoppage win last September, three months after he lost his undefeated record in one round against Lee Jennings.

Truman has since taken a draw from fellow area title challenger Jon Baguley and warns he shouldn't be taken lightly.

He said: "I know I am capable of winning that title, I believe in myself."

"To win the Midlands title would be the highlight of my career, so far."

Favourite

"He's the champion and the favourite and, on the night, I will prove I am at that level."

"If he comes to fight, I will look to box. I am not looking for a war. I want to get my jab working and use my range, if I can do that the power will come with it."

"I know I can punch, my coaches are always telling me how hard I hit."

Giuseppe Daprato can testify that Truman has a puncher's chance, after he was blown out in five rounds at the Tower Ballrooms, Birmingham.

That went some way to easing the pain of that collapse to Jennings, but Truman insists lessons have been learned.

Baguley would have been the biggest scalp of all – and Truman insists he won the fight.

He said: "Light welter is my natural weight, I feel strong. I have never, ever felt good boxing at anything else."

"I have had two fights since my defeat, so that's in the past now, but it's definitely done me good."

"It's made me use my brain a bit more, instead of just throwing shots. I feel better, stronger and I look bigger now, everyone says so."

Day of promise ends with another familiar outcome

THE HAWTHORNS is hardly proving to be home sweet home for Albion. A seventh home Premier League defeat this season shows the Baggies have yet to eliminate their self-destructive tendencies.

Recent years have proven their ability to raise fans' expectations is exceeded only by their capacity to shoot themselves in the foot, writes Steve Madeley.

And so it proved again on Saturday as they allowed another fabulous opportunity to slip through their grasp.

The latest giveaway on home turf showed that even wily manager Roy Hodgson's side are not immune from the bad habits that bedevilled the teams of Tony Mowbray and Roberto Di Matteo.

Albion played well enough and carved out enough clear-cut openings to claim victory with something to spare. That they ended up with a seventh home league defeat of the season highlighted the carelessness that is threatening to turn what might have been an enjoyable mid-table campaign into another tense relegation fight.

Only Bolton and Blackburn have suffered more defeats at home than Hodgson's men this season and no team in the Premier League has netted fewer goals than the Baggies on their own territory.

Even allowing for the best away record in the bottom half of the division, Hodgson and Co cannot expect to climb away from the relegation scrap without improving their fortunes at The Hawthorns.

Fortune

Yet once more on Saturday, things could have been so different.

There were two fine saves from John Ruddy, a moment of good fortune for the Canaries keeper and a vital goal-line clearance from former Wolves midfielder Andrew Surman to help increase the agony for a frustrated home faithful.

Then there was the all-too-familiar defensive naivety. Both Norwich goals came when the visitors sprang from promising Albion attacks.

Hodgson will have been especially upset at the nature of Saturday's defeat. But, as Hawthorns regulars will testify, he is not the first Albion gaffer of recent times to be frustrated by the team's perennial Achilles heel.

Sucker-punches brought defeat in a game they should have won at home to Wigan and losses to Stoke and Everton when draws were the least they should have collected.

And once again at the weekend they were architects of their own downfall. First, they

Albion 1 Norwich City 2

contrived to reach half-time 1-0 behind despite a dominant 45-minute display in the opening half.

An early shot from distance by Peter Odemwingie was misjudged by a diving Ruddy, who saw his half-save rebound onto the crossbar.

A fine move midway through the half ended with FA Cup hat-trick hero Simon Cox denied superbly by a sprawling Ruddy. And a sweet volley from outside the penalty area from James Morrison was blocked on the line by Surman.

Only a messy mix-up between Ben Foster and Gareth McAuley offered any encouragement for the Canaries, who saw the Baggies keeper's clearance hit Steve Morison and trickle against the woodwork.

Yet two minutes before the break a poor touch by Cox saw an Albion attack break down in the Norwich box and the visitors broke through Simeon Jackson with Wes Hoolahan's eventual cross volleyed home by Surman.

Shane Long's return from injury as a second-half Albion substitute looked set to add the finishing touch to their pleasing build-up play. First, the Irishman drew another brave save from Ruddy, then he dispatched a cool penalty after Jerome Thomas's dart at goal was blocked by a Daniel Ayala lunge that, on another day, might have earned the Spaniard a red card.

At 1-1 the Baggies looked the likeliest winners, yet again they surrendered the initiative as a heavy touch from Youssouf Mulumbu marked the end of a promising attacking move and the Canaries broke for their winner. Grant Holt's ability to race down the Baggies left will have worried Hodgson, as will the freedom Morison had to head home his cross at the far post.

Another day of promise had a depressingly familiar outcome.



Shane Long slots home from the penalty spot, but it was not enough for Albion

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Day of promise ends badly for the Baggies
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Title chance for light-welterweight
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Humbling for Cradley as defence leaks five

CRADLEY suffered a 5-2 defeat away to makeshift Wednesfield in the West Midlands Premier League.

The hosts were unlucky when Danny Forward had a header cleared off the line but a few minutes later Anton Johns controlled a Thomas Horton free-kick on his chest before volleying the ball into the net from eight yards.

Cradley hit back to equalise in the 39th minute when Michael Woolman headed a Sam Wilkinson cross over Sam Arnold.

Wednesfield regained the lead just before half-time when Bekir Halil lofted the ball into the empty net after Matt Jones had dashed to the edge of the area to clear.

The hosts extended their lead at the start of the second half as Tyrone Clarke steered a Lee Butler corner past Jones.

Cradley enjoyed a good spell as Wilkinson hit a post from 25 yards and then pulled one back in the 79th minute with Edward Flory netting from close range.

A minute later Wednesfield regained their two-goal advantage with Halli scoring from the spot after Johns was fouled by Luke Guy.

Wednesfield's Sullivan added a fifth when he beat the offside trap to round Jones and roll the ball into an empty net.

Relegation strugglers fight it out

A BATTLE royal looms as West Bromwich Harriers fight to beat the drop from Division Two of the Birmingham and District Cross-Country League.

The final fixture at Wolverhampton in four weeks' time will see Sparkhill Harriers and West Bromwich Harriers battle it out to dodge relegation.

Sparkhill have the advantage, but just 11 points separate the teams with Sparkhill on 1,861 points, West Bromwich on 1,850.

The third race, held at Wyken Croft, Coventry, yielded 596 points for West Bromwich who were without some of their stars.

Leading the club home was J Jeffries in 35th position with a time of 33 min 47sec over the six miles, backed by G Dehl (50th), G Whitehouse (84th), S Pitt (120th), Mal Carr (131st) and Paul Jakeways (176th).

Club makes waves to beat rivals

Swimming

HALESOWEN Swimming Club romped to victory in the Redditch junior friendly gala in Droitwich, finishing 53 points clear of second-placed Redditch in the five-club event.

Swimmers who won both their individual events were Katy Morrice, Ben Meakin and Mark Laing in the freestyle and butterfly, Kitty Luscombe in the breaststroke and backstroke and Imogen Vaughan-Hawkins in the freestyle and backstroke.

Other individual event winners were Jack Simpson, Euan Vaughan-Hawkins and Daniel Smyllie in the backstroke, James Cuthbert in the butterfly and India Hanke

in the freestyle. The relay teams were exceptional, winning nearly all events. They featured Amber Robbins, Nicol Green, Amber Harrison, George Edwards and Owen Crump for the 10-year-olds; Indu Appanna, Emma Bird, Kate Martin, Jakob Baker and George Westwood for the 11-year-olds and Jamie Greenwood for the 12-year-old boys relay team.

Sophie Parsons, Ruby Hanke, Melissa Parsons, James Gaskin, Aaron Spoor and Jacob Reeves won the nine-year-old freestyle relay, while Molly Kelly and

Lauren Hill helped Halesowen win all three of the cannon relays.

Results: Halesowen 268, Redditch 215, Stourbridge 195, Worcester 190 and Evesham 112.

More than 200 members, family and friends of the club attended their presentation evening at Benjamins in Halesowen.

Some 50 swimmers were awarded trophies and certificates with particular mention to Ben Meakin who broke 13 records and collected the best performance trophy along the way.

Chief coach Pete Carey, who is celebrating 10 years at the club, awarded trophies to best newcomer India Hanke and swimmer

of the year Jacob Darby. Club captains were also appointed with junior captains for 2012 being Lauren Hill and Mark Laing, senior captain Chloe Robbins and senior vice-captain Josh Bradley.

The presentation followed a year of club success. Swimmers took a senior, junior and two age group titles in the county championships, while senior swimmers retained the Worcester Winter League title.

The club won the county relay championships, the juniors competed in the first division final for the third year running and the season was rounded off by winning the Mercian Summer League for the first time.

Agony for Tipton as strikers thwarted

TIPTON were made to pay for missed opportunities as they were beaten 1-0 at Midland Alliance leaders Coventry Sphinx.

The visitors showed their intent early on, putting Sphinx keeper Carl O'Neill under pressure from set-pieces.

In the 13th minute James Cooper fired wide for Tipton and they threatened again soon after when Mitch Plows centred, but David Bate was off target.

On-loan Rushall striker Craig Bannister then crossed for Max Black but his glancing header drifted wide.

Sphinx went in front against the run of play when Edwards bundled the ball home from a corner.

Tipton responded well and it seemed their good work would be rewarded when excellent play from Plows and Bannister put Cooper in, but his volley from two yards went wide.

The second half started as the first half finished with Cooper missing an even easier chance.

Tipton were by far the better team and all that was missing was an end product to their good play.

Bannister mis-timed a hook shot in the 66th minute with the goal at his mercy.

Ace Thomas helps GB to the Olympics

GYMNAST Kristian Thomas helped Great Britain seize their final chance to qualify a full men's artistic gymnastics team for the Olympic Games.

Thomas, a member of Earls Gymnastics Club in Halesowen, was second in the individual standings as Britain secured a full berth of five gymnasts for the first time since 1992. Daniel Purvis finished top and Daniel Keatings third.

The team, also featuring Louis Smith, Max Whitlock and Ruslan Panteleymonov finished first with a total of 358.227 ahead of France on 350.659, Spain with 347.292 and Italy on 346.334, as Canada, Brazil, Puerto Rico and Belarus missed out.

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CARDS ARE COSTLY, WARNS BROOKES

HALESOWEN chairman Colin Brookes today admitted the Yeltz's indiscipline is now costing them precious points.

Mike McGrath's dismissal in Saturday's 4-2 defeat at North Leigh was the Yeltz's eighth red card of the season.

Halesowen were drawing 2-2 at the time before two late goals left them 15th in the Southern League Division One South and West.

Brookes said: "We can't hide the facts now, last Saturday was our eighth sending-off in 29 games. We were drawing 2-2 at the time and McGrath was sent off for violent conduct."

"I feel for Shaun (Cunnington, manager) because he's working so hard to turn it around."

"The cards must have cost us 12 to 14 points - put that on our total and it's not a bad one."

"We've had something like 54 bookings in 29 games so it's only about two a game but something is happening and they are getting themselves sent off," he added.

"It's something you can't legislate for."

McGrath's dismissal at North Leigh ensured that Halesowen ended with 10 men for the third consecutive game. Striker Ben Haseley netted on his club debut and Nathan Jackson was also on the scoresheet.

But Morgan Williams and John Mills scored a brace apiece for the hosts on Halesowen's first visit to the Oxfordshire club.

Former Heath Hayes striker Haseley marked an impressive debut by giving the Yeltz a 10th-minute lead after holding off defender Andy Caton before clipping over keeper Sam Warrell.

A neat flick from Nathan Jones almost put Haseley free again after half an hour. But North Leigh equalised in the 31st minute

by Nick Mashiter

when Williams steered a deep left-wing cross from Michael Hopkins into the top corner of the net.

Visiting captain Brendan Kelly did well to head clear Hopkins' dangerous cross for a 35th-minute corner and stand-in keeper Louis Connor tipped Tom Franklin's header over from a Toby Clarke cross.

The Yeltz regained their lead after 40 minutes when Jackson spotted Warrell off his line and unleashed a 30-yard shot which the stranded keeper could only help into the net.

Mills equalised in the 73rd minute after being put clear. The home side finished strongly after McGrath was sent off with a straight red in the 76th minute.

McGrath went to ground in the penalty area and then squared up to central defender Franklin in a head-to-head confrontation.

North Leigh went ahead for the first time in the 84th-minute when a shot from Elliott Osbourne-Ricketts rebounded for Williams to fire home his second. Deep in injury time, Mills tapped home his second.

That's just champion as pool stars take the title



The winning team from Brierley Hill Snooker & Pool celebrate their Champion of Champions success, from left, Ian Priest, Hilten Patel, Paul Shakespeare, Neil Raybone, Paul Dunkey, Pat Ward and Steve Sears

POOL players from Brierley Hill are just champion after proving themselves the best in the country.

The team from Brierley Hill Snooker & Pool, formerly PJ's Pool Hall Stourbridge, were crowned the national Champion of Champions.

Ninety-six sides competed in the two-day finals, with Brierley Hill victorious after defeating Dragon Boyz 8-5 in the final.

Captain Paul Dunkey said: "This is definitely one of the hardest events any team or player can aspire to win."

Only teams who are their local league champions can enter the tournament.

All teams consist of seven players and every match is the best of 14 frames, with each player in the side playing twice.

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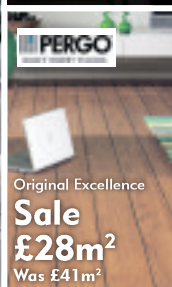


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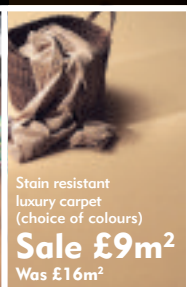
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